

NORTHEAST UTILITIES

THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY
HOLYOKE WATER POWER COMPANY
NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

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June 3, 1983

Docket No. 50-336
B10805

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: Mr. Robert A. Clark, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

- References: (1) E. J. Mroczka letter to R. C. Haynes, dated December 28, 1981.
- (2) W. G. Counsil letter to R. A. Clark, dated November 19, 1982.

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2
Proposed Revisions to Technical Specifications
Steam Generator Tube Slewing

Pursuant to 10CFR50.90, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) hereby proposes to amend its operating license, No. DPR-65 for Millstone Unit No. 2, by incorporating the changes identified in Attachment 1 into the Technical Specifications.

The proposed changes to Section 3/4.4.5 of the Technical Specifications and applicable bases provide for the repair of defective steam generator tubes through plugging or slewing. A defect in a tube or sleeve is defined as an imperfection which exceeds the plugging limit of 40% of the nominal tube or sleeve wall thickness.

During the December 1981 refueling outage, NNECO identified a high incidence of eddy current test (ECT) indications on the secondary side of the steam generator tubes between the tube sheet and the first tube support. This was reported to the Staff in Reference (1) with NNECO's preliminary characterization of the indications as pits. This conclusion was confirmed with the removal of three tube segments. All tubes with ECT indications equal to or exceeding the plugging limit were removed from service by plugging.

It is NNECO's intention to repair selected defective steam generator tubes by installing a bimetallic sleeve between the tube sheet and the first tube support. The bimetallic Inconel 625/690 sleeve will provide an elevated resistance to the pitting corrosion attack experienced on the secondary side of the steam generator tube bundle while maintaining excellent corrosion resistance in the primary reactor coolant system chemistry.

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NNECO informed the NRC Staff in Reference (2) of the plans to install sleeves in the Millstone Unit No. 2 steam generators. In addition, a meeting was held between our respective Staff's in your Bethesda Offices on May 4, 1983 for the purposes of discussing the project details and schedule. At that time, we informed you of our intention to submit a license amendment request on or about June 1, 1983 which would permit plant operation with degraded steam generator tubes repaired by sleeving. This submittal fulfills that commitment.

NNECO is undertaking this effort with Westinghouse Electric Corporation. The sleeving process is essentially identical to that employed at several other facilities for which the Staff has reviewed and approved the installation of steam generator tube sleeves. The details of the sleeving process will be provided in the Millstone Unit No. 2 Sleeving Report which is scheduled to be submitted to the Staff on or about July 1, 1983.

Attachment 2 herein identifies the bases for the proposed sleeving repair of the steam generator tubes, the repair plan and qualification test program results and identifies the differences between the effort at Millstone Unit No. 2 and those projects previously reviewed and approved by the Staff.

NNECO is also providing at this time, for the Staff's information and review, the following documentation in Attachment 3:

- A. Sleeve Installation Process Mechanical Testing Report
- B. Material and Corrosion Bimetallic Sleeve Testing Results
- C. Supplemental Material and Mechanical Bimetallic Sleeve Testing Results
- D. Sleeving Analytical Verification

Attachment 3C specifically addresses concerns identified by the Staff at the May 4 meeting. Portions of the material contained in Attachment 3 will be included in the Sleeving Report which will be provided in approximately one month as previously discussed. Portions of the material contained in Attachment 3 are proprietary to Westinghouse Electric Corporation. As such, NNECO is providing both a proprietary and non-proprietary version of this document with each copy being labeled appropriately. It is requested that the proprietary versions of this submittal be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with the provisions of 10CFR2.790 and that this material be safeguarded. The reasons for the classification of this material as proprietary are delineated in the letter and accompanying affidavit included as Attachment 4.

The Millstone Unit No. 2 sleeving program has been under development and review within NNECO for over a year. The attached proposed changes have been reviewed pursuant to 10CFR50.59 and have not been found to constitute an unreviewed safety question. The attached information provides the bases for the conclusion reached in these reviews which included evaluations in the areas of mechanical and structural integrity of the steam generators, material and corrosion considerations and reactor performance.

NNECO has reviewed the attached proposed license amendment pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR50.91(a) and has determined that the changes involve no

significant hazards consideration. The basis for this conclusion is that none of the criteria delineated in 10CFR50.92 have been compromised. That is, the proposed changes do not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. A comparison of the contents of this amendment request with the list of examples of amendments in 48FR14864 likely to involve no significant hazards considerations reveals that none of the examples precisely envelopes this proposal. Portions of example (vi) are applicable, in that the results of the proposed changes are clearly within all acceptance criteria. The attachments to this letter identify the pertinent technical areas requiring evaluation, and demonstrate that the results are acceptable. It is noted that none of the examples provided as amendments likely to involve significant hazards considerations are applicable to this proposal.

NNECO's conclusion that this proposal involves no significant hazards consideration is most clearly explained by reviewing our findings pursuant to 10CFR50.59. The criteria governing the two determinations, unreviewed safety question and significant hazards considerations, are such that a significant hazards consideration cannot exist without the presence of an unreviewed safety question. The criteria of 10 CFR 50.59 are more limiting than those of 10 CFR 50.92. NNECO's evaluation has demonstrated the absence of an unreviewed safety question; hence, no significant hazards consideration exists.

The Millstone Unit No. 2 Nuclear Review Board has reviewed and approved the attached proposed changes and concurs with the above determinations.

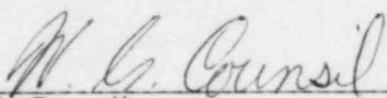
In accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.91^(c), a copy of this document is being provided to the State of Connecticut.

NNECO has reviewed the attached proposed changes pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.170 and has determined that this application represents a Class III amendment. The basis for this determination is that the changes constitute a single safety issue which do not involve a significant hazards consideration. Accordingly, enclosed is the appropriate Class III license amendment fee of \$4,000.

We remain available to assist the Staff by any means to facilitate the review of the attached proposed changes. As was discussed at the May 4, 1983 meeting with the Staff, NNECO intends to begin sleeve installation in mid-July. Plant startup is scheduled for mid-September.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

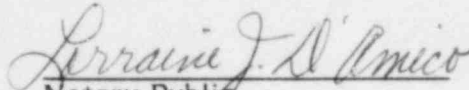


W. G. Council
Senior Vice President

cc: Mr. Arthur Heubner
Director, Radiation Control Unit
Department of Environmental Protection
State Office Building
Hartford, CT 06116

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)
) ss. Berlin
COUNTY OF HARTFORD)

Then personally appeared before me W. G. Counsil, who being duly sworn, did state that he is Senior Vice President of Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, a Licensee herein, that he is authorized to execute and file the foregoing information in the name and on behalf of the Licensees herein and that the statements contained in said information are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.


Notary Public

My Commission Expires March 31, 1988

DOCKET NO. 50—336
LICENSE NO. DPR—65

MILLSTONE UNIT NO. 2

PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS STEAM GENERATOR SLEEVING

NORTHEAST UTILITIES
BERLIN, CONNECTICUT

June, 1983