

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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April 8, 1983

Docket No. 50-423
AEC-MP3-311
B10750

Mr. James M. Allan
Deputy Regional Administrator
Region I
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies
in Design and Construction: Interference
and Possible Binding of ITT Grinnell Mechanical Snubbers (SD-34)

In a March 4, 1983 telephone conversation between your Mr. T. Elsasser and our Mr. R. Lefebvre, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 as required by Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations Part 50, Paragraph 55(e).

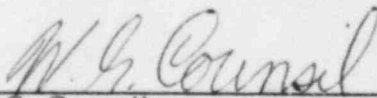
The potential significant deficiency involves ITT Grinnell snubber hardware interference which may limit the angle of action of the snubbers. The interference restricts snubber movement with the possibility of binding which could cause excessive piping loads. It is presently believed that the deficiency exists in ITT Grinnell snubber hardware manufactured prior to April 1980.

Presently, we are unable to provide a final report describing the corrective and preventive measures to be taken because our evaluation has not yet been completed. We will provide our final report in this matter by July 1, 1983.

Based on a March 31, 1983 telephone conversation between our Mr. J. Majewski and your Mr. T. Elsasser, we are submitting this report on or before April 8, 1983.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



W. G. Council
Senior Vice President

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