



Northeast
Nuclear Energy

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The Northeast Utilities System

Docket No. 50-423
RE: 10CFR50.36

November 15, 1994

MP-94-635

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Loose-Part Detection System Channel Failure

This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to Millstone Unit 3 Technical Specification 3.3.3.8.a, Loose-Part Detection System. Plant Technical Specification 3.3.3.8.a requires a Special Report to the NRC 10 days following one or more channels of the Loose-Part Detection System being declared inoperable for more than 30 days while in Mode 1 (Power Operation) or Mode 2 (Startup), outlining the cause of the malfunction and the plans for restoring the channel(s) to operable status.

On October 24, 1994, at 0806, with the plant in Mode 1 (Power Operation) at 100% power, 2250 psia, and 587 degrees Fahrenheit, the Loose Parts Monitoring System (LPM) was declared inoperable. Channel 8, Steam Generator D Lower, failed. Subsequent troubleshooting and corrective action has been unable to restore channel 8. The remaining 11 channels, including the redundant Steam Generator D channel, are restored, fully functional and capable of detecting a loose part.

Loose parts impacts in the Reactor Coolant System (RCS) are detected by accelerometers attached to major RCS components. An impact generates a signal from one or more accelerometers and triggers a High Alarm annunciator on the Main Control board. The High Alarm signal causes information to be recorded from 12 channels onto a computer disk.

The cause of the LPM channel 8 failure has been isolated to the in-containment cabling/accelerometer. Cable and accelerometer replacement is planned for the next refueling outage (currently scheduled for Spring 1995).

The Licensee contact for this Special Report is Michael Watson, who may be contacted at (203) 447-1791 (x6578).

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

Donald B. Miller, Jr.

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