

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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

General Offices • Selden Street, Berlin, Connecticut

P.O. BOX 270
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06141-0270
(203) 666-6911

April 9, 1984

Docket No. 50-423
B11108

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Reference (1): D. G. Eisenhower letter to all operating PWR Licensees, Construction Permit Holders and Applicants for Construction Permits (Generic Letter 84-04), dated February 1, 1984.

Dear Mr. Denton:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Alternative Pipe Break Criteria

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, (NNECO) has followed with interest the developments regarding the elimination of postulated primary coolant loop pipe breaks from the structural design basis for PWRs; in particular, the Staff's recent issuance of Generic Letter 84-04 (Reference (1)). Based on the Staff's positive conclusions regarding the generic analyses submitted by Westinghouse to address asymmetric LOCA loads, NNECO has decided to utilize this information as the basis for not postulating pipe breaks in the primary coolant loop piping at Millstone Unit 3.

As such, we intend to submit an exemption request from GDC-4 in the near future. To support our exemption request, we plan to submit a plant-specific report demonstrating the applicability of the Westinghouse generic analyses to Millstone Unit 3. Additionally, we will provide a plant-specific safety balance in accordance with the guidance of Reference (1). The purpose of this is to show that no undue risk to public safety results from not providing pipe whip restraints and jet impingement shields to protect against the dynamic effects of a rupture of the primary coolant piping.

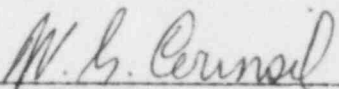
8404200229 840409
PDR ADOCK 05000423
A PDR

8001
110

If you have any concerns or questions related to our intended course of action, please feel free to contact my licensing staff directly.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



W. G. Council
Senior Vice President