

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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January 16, 1992

Docket No. 50-423
B14020

Re: ASME Section XI
GL 90-05
10CFR50.55a(g)(6)(i)

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

Gentlemen:

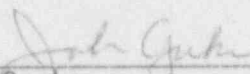
Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Request for Relief from ASME Code Section XI Requirements

In a letter dated December 18, 1991, (1) Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) submitted for Staff review a request for relief from ASME Code Section XI to permit the use of a rubber expansion joint as an interim noncode repair in the service water system at Millstone Unit No. 3. During the review of the request for relief, the Staff raised several questions on the design parameters of the rubber expansion joint. The purpose of this letter is to provide, as Attachment I, the Staff's questions with attendant responses.

Please contact my staff if you have further questions.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



J. F. Opeka
Executive Vice President

(1) J. F. Opeka letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3, Request for Relief from ASME Code Section XI Requirements," dated December 18, 1991.

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cc: T. T. Martin, Region I Administrator
Vernon L. Rooney, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 3
William J. Raymond, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit Nos. 1, 2,
and 3

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Attachment I

Milistone Unit No. 3

Additional Information to Request
for Relief from ASME Section XI

January 1992

Millstone Unit No. 3
Additional Information to Relief Request

- Q1. What is the test burst pressure of the subject rubber expansion joint? Also, was the joint hydro tested prior to delivery to NNECO?
- A1. The burst pressure is approximately 4 times the maximum joint operating pressure of 190 psi. The expansion joint was not hydro tested prior to delivery, it was tested by NNECO in accordance with Engineering Procedure EN 31063-1 at 150 psig for 10 minutes. The test was witnessed by the Authorized Nuclear Inservice Inspector (ANII) and the Quality Services Department (QSD).
- Q2. What is the reinforcement (cord) material in the rubber expansion joint?
- A2. The joint is made with polyester/steel cord.
- Q3. What is the basis for the rated shelf life and service life of the joint?
- A3. The shelf and service lives are based on the vendor's experience.
- Q4. Are the shelf life and the service life additive?
- A4. The shelf and service lives are not additive.
- Q5. What is the probable failure mode?
- A5. The probable failure mode is a leak.
- Q6. What mechanisms could degrade the rubber expansion joint?
- A6. Possible degrading conditions are media, temperature, pressure, and adverse environmental conditions.