

# 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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March 23, 1984

Docket No. 50-423  
F0493A

Dr. Thomas E. Murley  
Regional Administrator  
Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Reference: (1) W. G. Counsil letter to T. E. Murley, F0467A, dated  
February 15, 1984.

Dear Dr. Murley:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3  
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies  
in Design and Construction:  
Phase-to-Phase Electric Fault in a Motor Control Center (SD-50)

In a January 16, 1984 telephone conversation between the NRC Resident Inspector, Mr. T. Rebelowski, and our Mr. D. B. Vail, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 as required by 10CFR50.55(e). Subsequently, this was followed up with another telephone conversation with your Mr. T. Elsasser on January 17, 1984. The potential significant deficiency involves a phase-to-phase electrical fault which occurred in a motor control center (MCC) supplied by Gould, Inc. while a technician was testing with a clamp-on ammeter. The fault occurred between adjacent phases of the uninsulated cable adapters used to terminate oversized cables to MCC circuit breakers and starters.

We have initiated action to remove all uninsulated cable adapters on all safety-related and nonsafety-related MCC circuit breakers and starters. The criteria used for terminating the field cables to MCC breakers and starters is as follows:

1. Where the cable size is small enough to fit a breaker or starter, the cable will be terminated directly onto the breaker or starter.
2. Where the cable size is too large to fit a breaker or starter, the cable will be spliced down to the largest size cable able to fit onto the breaker or starter.

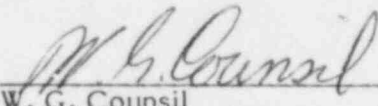
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We are currently awaiting the seismic qualification data from Gould, Inc. with regard to the cable adapters. Once this data is received, it will be reviewed by our architect-engineer, Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation, and Northeast Utilities.

Based on a discussion between Mr. R. Young and Mr. T. Rebelowski, this update is being provided on March 23, 1984 rather than March 15, 1984. We are not able to provide you with a final report at this time and are requesting an extension until June 20, 1984.

Very truly yours,

  
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W. G. Council  
Senior Vice President

cc: Mr. R. C. DeYoung, Director  
Division of Inspection and Enforcement  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Phillips Building  
7920 Norfolk Avenue  
Bethesda, MD 20014