

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 9, 1984

Docket No. 50-423
F0449A

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, F0429A, dated
December 9, 1983.

Dear Dr. Murley:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies
in Design and Construction:
Seismic Duct Welds Potentially Underdesigned (SD-47)

In a November 9, 1983 telephone conversation between your Mr. T. Elsasser and our Mr. R. W. Vogel, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 as required by 10CFR50.55(e). The potential significant deficiency involves duct weld joints which may be underdesigned with respect to seismic requirements. This was the result of inconsistent interpretation of weld symbols between the duct fabricator and the architect-engineer. This resulted in partial penetration welds (rather than full penetration welds which was expected by the duct designer.)

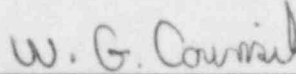
Our architect-engineer, Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation (SWEC), has conducted a test program on weld strength and inspected a random sample of existing welds. Calculations on required weld strength are currently being reviewed by SWEC, however, conclusions have not been finalized at this time.

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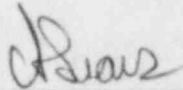
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We are not able to provide you with a final report at this time. We will provide you with an update on this matter by June 8, 1984.

Very truly yours,



W. G. Council
Senior Vice President



By: C. F. Sears
Vice President Nuclear and
Environmental Engineering

cc: Mr. R. C. DeYoung, Director
Division of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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