

NORTHEAST UTILITIES

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

General Offices • Seiden Street, Berlin, Connecticut

P.O. BOX 270
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(203) 665-5000

February 4, 1992

Docket No. 50-336

B14032

Re: ASME Code, Section IX

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

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2
ASME Code Section IX Weld Requirements

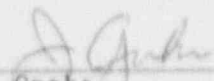
In a letter dated December 16, 1991,⁽¹⁾ Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) submitted to the NRC staff a request for relief from the ASME Code. Based upon discussions with your staff on January 9, 1992, your Staff requested that NNECO submit clarification of NNECO's proposed welding requirements. Your staff believed that relief from the ASME Code was not warranted. Based upon this discussion, NNECO hereby withdraws our relief request of December 16, 1991, and provides clarification of our proposed welding requirements.

NNECO has qualified machine gas tungsten-arc welding procedures utilizing the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section IX. Per Section IX, QW 409.1, the maximum heat input utilized during procedure qualification shall be the maximum heat input permitted in the Welding Procedure Specification. Any changes in the width, frequency, or dwell time of oscillation which do not result in the heat inputs in excess of those qualified shall be considered as nonessential variables. Such changes in these oscillation parameters do not adversely affect fracture toughness properties.

If the NRC Staff has any concerns regarding the welding procedure requirements being utilized by NNECO, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY


J. F. Opeka
Executive Vice President

cc: T. T. Martin, Region I Administrator
G. S. Vissing, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 2
W. J. Raymond, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3

(1) J. F. Opeka letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2, Relief Request From ASME Code Section IX Requirements," dated December 16, 1991.

AO47/10