

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 26, 1985

Docket No. 50-423
B11520

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Mr. B. J. Youngblood, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Request for Code Case Approval

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) is hereby applying for NRC approval to invoke Code Cases N-401 and N-402 as part of the steam generator preservice eddy current tube inspections. In a conference call with the NRC Materials Engineering Branch technical reviewer, Mr. Herbert Conrad, on April 8, 1985, NNECO agreed to submit a justification for the use of the code cases, which have been approved by the ASME Code Committee.

Code Case N-401

As an alternative to Section XI, Division 1, Appendix IV, which requires magnetic tape and strip chart recording of test data, the steam generator tube eddy current testing would be performed with a Zetec MIZ-18 eddy current instrument. This system is capable of generating up to 16 separate signals simultaneously, resulting in up to 32 separate vertical and horizontal signal components. Considering the number of possible signal combinations available as a result of mixing outputs during analysis, it is impractical to record this data in strip chart form, however strip charts can be observed on the MIZ 18 computer display.

Therefore, we request that we be allowed to use digitized collection and storage of eddy current test data as an alternative to magnetic tape and strip chart recording of eddy current test data as required by Section XI, Division 1, Appendix IV.

Code Case N-402

NNECO proposes that eddy current testing of the steam generator tubing be conducted using calibration standards of the same nominal chemical composition and product form (as the Millstone 3 steam generator tubing) in lieu of calibration standards of tubing of the same chemical composition and heat treatment.

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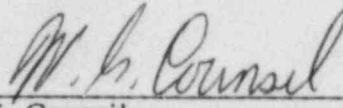
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To qualify the calibration standards used, a calibration demonstration will be performed using two standards (one heat treated, the second not heat treated) to show that the eddy current discontinuity signal responses are equivalent. This demonstration will be performed before start of exams and will be witnessed by utility personnel and the ANII.

Since exams are scheduled to be performed in May, 1985, it is requested that your prompt attention to this matter be given.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. G. Council", is written over a horizontal line.

W. G. Council
Senior Vice President