

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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May 17, 1985

Docket No. 50-423
F0757A

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

Reference: (1) W. G. Counsil letter to T. E. Murley, F0723A, dated April 17, 1985.

Dear Dr. Murley:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies
in Accordance with 10CFR50.55(e):
Cooper and Turner Load Indicating Washers (SD-76)

In a March 18, 1985 telephone conversation between your Mr. T. Rebelowski and our Mr. R. B. Roy, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 in accordance with 10CFR50.55(e). The potential significant deficiency involved load indicating washers (LIW) supplied by Cooper and Turner, Inc.

A certain lot of Cooper and Turner LIW were thought to have preloads out of compliance with their design values. A deficiency in these LIW could result in inadequate bolt preloading which could compromise the integrity of the structural connection.

In Reference (1), we informed you that we were still investigating the Cooper and Turner claim that some of their LIW may have been improperly heat treated after leaving their facility. We have completed our review of this claim and do not find it to be credible. An investigation by our architect-engineer, Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation, along with testing performed by Bridgeport Laboratories has lead us to determine that the LIW in question differ from other Cooper and Turner LIW only in appearance (the potentially deficient LIW were lighter in color). The LIW in question had approximately the same hardness and showed no significant variations in crushing loads when compared to other Cooper and Turner LIW. Therefore, there is no reason to suspect that these washers may be detrimental to the performance of structural joints and this is not a significant deficiency for Millstone Unit No. 3.

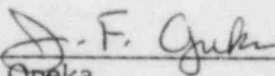
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We consider this to be our final report for SD-76. We trust that the above information satisfactorily responds to your concerns.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



J. F. Opeka
Senior Vice President

cc: Mr. J. M. Taylor, Director
Division of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555