

February 19, 1993

Docket No. 50-245

Mr. John F. Opeka
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
Post Office Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Dear Mr. Opeka:

Distribution:
Docket File
NRC & Local PDRs
PD 1-4 Plant
SVarga
JCalvo
SNorris
JAndersen
OGC
ACRS (10)
LTDoerflein, RI
CMcCracken

SUBJECT: MILLSTONE UNIT 1 - ISOLATION CONDENSER TESTING

By letter dated September 22, 1992, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) submitted a change to the commitments made regarding inspection and Enforcement Bulletin No. 76-01. Bulletin 76-01 required all boiling water reactors with isolation condensers to provide a description of the steps taken or planned to assure integrity of the isolation condenser tubes. By letter dated March 31, 1976, NNECO responded to the bulletin and outlined its plans for assuring isolation condenser tube integrity at Millstone 1. These plans included: (1) a periodic eddy current examination (one bundle every second scheduled refueling outage), (2) a heat removal capability test after each automatic initiation of the isolation condenser on a not to exceed 5 year time period, (3) a primary side pressure test every second plant operating cycle, and (4) a tube sheet inspection at the same frequency as the tube bundle eddy current inspection on a not to exceed 5 operations of the isolation condenser basis. NNECO provided updated information to the NRC regarding its surveillance program in a letter dated March 27, 1984.

In the September 22, 1992, letter, NNECO indicated their plans to initiate a procedure change to eliminate the heat removal capability test following each automatic initiation of the isolation condenser. The bulletin commitments were reassessed as a result of the inadvertent initiation of the isolation condenser which occurred on September 2, 1992. NNECO's immediate response to the September 2, 1992, event included sampling of shell side water for radioactivity. Five shell side water samples taken for two weeks following the event did not indicate any detectable activity. In addition, NNECO normally monitors shell side water level and temperature on a daily basis, and the shell side water is sampled for activity on a routine basis. NNECO believes that water level and temperature are the most sensitive indicators of tube integrity degradation and would be promptly identified either by observation of the upward trending of the parameters or by alarms in the control room. Therefore, NNECO plans to initiate procedure changes to eliminate the heat removal capability test following each automatic initiation of the isolation condenser.

9302240295 930219
PDR ADOCK 05000245
P PDR

ENCLOSURE
JFO
1/10

Mr. John F. Opeka

-2-

The NRC staff has reviewed NNECO's commitments to Bulletin No. 76-01 and the change indicated in the September 22, 1992, letter. The staff agrees that the safety benefit of manually initiating the isolation condenser following an automatic initiation is minimal and that NNECO's remaining isolation condenser surveillances are adequate to assure tube integrity. Therefore, the NRC staff finds the removal of the isolation condenser heat removal capability test following each automatic initiation, acceptable.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

James W. Andersen, Acting Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

OFFICE	LA:PDI-4	PM:PDI-4	D:PDI-4	BC:SPLB	BC:SRX8
NAME	SNorris	JAndersen:ca	JStolz	CMcCracken	RJones
DATE	2/1/93	2/1/93	2/2/93	1/93	2/19/93

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Document Name: G:\ANDERSEN\ISOLCOND

Mr. John F. Opeka
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Unit 1

cc:

Gerald Garfield, Esquire
Day, Berry and Howard
Counselors at Law
City Place
Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3499

R. M. Kacich, Director
Nuclear Licensing
Northeast Utilities Service Company
Post Office Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

W. D. Romberg, Vice President
Nuclear, Operations Services
Northeast Utilities Service Company
Post Office Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

D. O. Nordquist
Director of Quality Services
Northeast Utilities Service Company
Post Office Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Kevin McCarthy, Director
Radiation Control Unit
Department of Environmental Protection
State Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Regional Administrator
Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Allan Johanson, Assistant Director
Office of Policy and Management
Policy Development and Planning Division
80 Washington Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

First Selectmen
Town of Waterford
Hall of Records
200 Boston Post Road
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

S. E. Scace, Nuclear Station Director
Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
Post Office Box 128
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

P. D. Swetland, Resident Inspector
Millstone Nuclear Power Station
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Post Office Box 513
Niantic, Connecticut 06357

H. F. Haynes, Nuclear Unit Director
Millstone Unit No. 1
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
Post Office Box 128
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

Nicholas S. Reynolds
Winston & Strawn
1400 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-3502