

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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July 11, 1985

Docket No. 50-423
F0777A

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

Reference: (1) J. F. Opeka to T. E. Murley, F0754A, dated May 10, 1985.

Dear Dr. Murley:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies
in Accordance with 10CFR50.55(e):
Structural Steel Connections in the Main Steam Valve Building (SD-81)

In an April 12, 1985 telephone conversation between your Mr. T. Rebelowski and our Mr. P. J. Quinlan, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 in accordance with 10CFR50.55(e). The potential significant deficiency involved structural steel connections in the Main Steam Valve Building (MSVB). As noted in Reference (1), we are hereby providing the following update.

Of the 96 previously reported deficient fixed-end connections, 31 have been dispositioned for re-work to the original design. Engineering has accepted the balance of the fixed-end connections as is. The 70 slotted connections with overtightened bolts were reworked to the original specifications.

If these conditions had remained undetected, it appears that plastic deformation in members as well as weld failure could have occurred due to either a severe temperature environment resulting from an accident condition or a safe shutdown earthquake event.

Therefore, we consider this to be a significant deficiency in accordance with 10CFR50.55(e).

These conditions are expected to be limited to the MSVB. However, a sampling of connections in other QA Category I Buildings is still being performed to verify this.

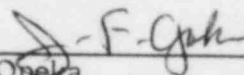
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As such, we are not able to provide a final report at this time. We will provide an update on this matter by August 29, 1985.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



J. F. Opoka
Senior Vice President

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