

# 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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June 28, 1985  
F0690A

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

- References:
- (1) T. T. Martin letter to W. G. Council, IE Inspection Report No. 50-423/83-14, dated November 22, 1983.
  - (2) W. G. Council letter to T. T. Martin, A03651, dated December 22, 1983.
  - (3) W. G. Council letter to T. T. Martin, F0454A, dated March 16, 1984.
  - (4) W. G. Council letter to T. E. Murley, F0557A dated June 18, 1984.
  - (5) W. G. Council letter to T. E. Murley, F0575A, dated September 28, 1984.
  - (6) E. C. Wenzinger letter to W. G. Council, IE Inspection Report No. 50-423/84-20, dated December 21, 1984.
  - (7) W. G. Council letter to R. W. Starostecki, A04566, dated January 18, 1985.
  - (8) W. G. Council letter to T. E. Murley, F0666A, dated January 31, 1985.

Dear Mr. Murley:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3  
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies  
in Accordance with 10CFR50.55(e):  
Tubeco Weld Radiographs (SD-56)

Potential deficiencies with Tubeco weld radiographs were first identified in a notice of violation in IE Inspection Report 50-423/83-14 (Reference 1). The violation concerned potential film density violations and the placing of penetrameters in the weld. NNECO responded to this notice of violation and concluded that these were not technical problems or safety concerns (References 2 and 3). However, a subsequent review uncovered three additional potential problems with Tubeco weld radiographs (undocumented linear indications,

excessive geometric unsharpness, and penetrameter identification numbers in the weld) which lead us to report a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 as required by 10CFR50.55(e) (Reference 4). We concluded that this was not a significant deficiency and that we believed Tubeco weld quality was adequate (Reference 5).

In Reference 6, you requested that we revise our September 28, 1984 (Reference 5) response to you based on information revealed during a subsequent, independent review of Tubeco weld radiographs by one of your inspectors.

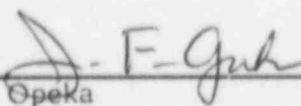
In accordance with commitments made in Reference 7 and 8, NNECO hereby provides the following update summarized below with latest estimated total weldment figures included:

- o NNECO has completed a 100% review of Tubeco Radiographs for QA Category I, ASME III Code Class 1, 2, and 3 welds. A total of 2185 weld radiographic film packages were reviewed.
- o Approximately 1230 weldments' radiographic film have been rejected for technique, film quality, and/or weld quality attributes.
- o Approximately 620 weld radiographs were rejected for film technique, but did not require further nondestructive examination to ensure code compliance.
- o 610 weldments required additional nondestructive examination to ensure code compliance.
- o 467 weldments required volumetric NDE reexamination.
- o 143 weldments required surface NDE examination.
- o About 29 volumetric and 2 surface examinations remain to be performed.
- o 59 weldments have rejectable weld or base metal indications. Thirty-nine had rejectable radiographic indications. The remaining 20 weldments exhibited rejectable magnetic particle surface indications in the weld or adjacent base material.

Corrective actions have not yet been completed, therefore we are not able to provide you with a final report at this time. We will provide an update on this matter by September 19, 1985.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

  
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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