

October 29, 1996

D10431

Mr. Sidney J. Holbrook, Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
P.O. Box 5066  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

- Reference:
1. NPDES Permit No. CT0003263, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Units 1, 2, and 3.
  2. Enclosure 1 to letter (D10084), D. B. Miller, Jr. to S. J. Holbrook, dated July 15, 1996. Ecological Studies Proposed for 1997 at Millstone Nuclear Power Station.

Dear Commissioner Holbrook:

Addendum to the 1997  
Millstone Nuclear Power Station  
Ecological Monitoring Program

Paragraph 7 of NPDES Permit No. CT0003263, Reference 1, requires that on or before July 31, 1994, and annually thereafter, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) submit to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) a study proposal covering biological studies, entrainment studies, and impingement monitoring at Millstone Nuclear Power Station (MNPS) as directed by Paragraph 5 of the NPDES permit. As part of the ecological studies proposed for 1997 at MNPS, Reference 2, NNECO agreed to submit an addendum to the study plan to address proposed 1997 studies on tautog to the DEP on or before October 31, 1996. Following is the proposed tautog study for 1997. The basis for this proposal is provided in Enclosure 1.

The objective of the proposed 1997 tautog study is to identify preferred tautog spawning locations within an approximate 5 nautical mile radius of Niantic Bay. This will be determined on the basis of egg densities. All sampling will be conducted during the evening, when peak spawning occurs. Samples will be taken with a 60-cm bongo sampler fitted with 333- $\mu$ m mesh nets. At each sampling site the sampler will be towed just below the water surface and tow distance will be sufficient to filter at least 50 m<sup>3</sup> of water. Sampling sites will be the same as those sampled during the 1996 farfield spatial study (see Enclosure 1, Fig. 9) and at 10 additional sites (5 west and 5 east of Niantic Bay). These additional sites will be located near the shoreline at approximately 1 nautical mile intervals. Exact station locations will be determined based on bottom topography. Sampling will be conducted twice (different days) at each site during the estimated peak spawning season, which will be determined from

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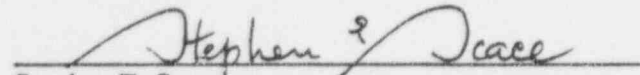
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May 1997 water temperature (see Enclosure 1, Fig. 4). Results of the proposed studies will be provided in the 1997 Annual Report.

Should you have any questions after reviewing this material, please call Dr. Milan Keser, Aquatic Services Branch, Northeast Utilities Environmental Laboratory, at 444-4238.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



Stephen E. Scace  
Acting Director Nuclear Engineering Programs

Enclosure

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