

50-423



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 11, 1997

Mr. Neil S. Carns  
Senior Vice President  
and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
c/o Mr. Richard T. Laudenat  
Director - Regulatory Affairs  
P.O. Box 128  
Waterford, CT 06385

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON EROSION OF CEMENT FROM THE  
UNDERLYING POROUS CONCRETE DRAINAGE SYSTEM, MILLSTONE UNIT 3  
(TAC NO. M96402)

Dear Mr. Carns:

By letter dated February 28, 1997, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) provided an engineering evaluation of the Phase III Containment Basemat Mock-Up Testing Report for Millstone Unit 3. The mock-up testing performed at the Alden Research Laboratory (ARL) was an effort by NNECO to obtain a better understanding of the cement erosion observed from under the Millstone Unit 3 containment foundation basement. This issue is being reviewed by the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) for disposition prior to Millstone Unit 3 startup and is included in the NRC's Millstone Unit 3 Restart Assessment Plan. The NRC staff's review will be documented in a future inspection report.

On March 19, 1997, members from NRR toured the mock-up at ARL. During the tour and followup discussions, your staff addressed many of the questions the NRC had concerning the mock-up testing and the monitoring of the Millstone Unit 3 basemat. During these discussions, your staff mentioned several reports which the NRC would like to review, specifically the root cause analysis and residual strength assessment, the porous concrete materials properties evaluation, and the containment structure seismic assessment. It is the NRC's understanding that these reports should all be completed by the middle of April 1997. In order to support further NRC evaluation of this issue, please provide these documents to the NRC by the end of April 1997.

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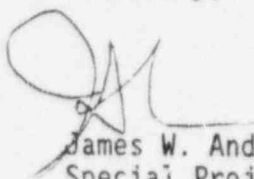
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Neil S. Carns

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In addition, it is the NRC's understanding that NNECO's evaluation for this issue is scheduled to be completed by July 1, 1997. As stated above, in order for the NRC to complete its evaluation of this issue prior to restart, NNECO's evaluation is requested to be submitted as soon as possible after its completion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'JW Andersen', written over the typed name.

James W. Andersen, Project Manager  
Special Projects Office - Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-423

cc: See next page

Neil S. Carns

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In addition, it is the NRC's understanding that NNECO's evaluation for this issue is scheduled to be completed by July 1, 1997. As stated above, in order for the NRC to complete its evaluation of this issue prior to restart, NNECO's evaluation is requested to be submitted as soon as possible after its completion.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

James W. Andersen, Project Manager  
Special Projects Office - Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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\*see previous concurrence

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NAME	JAndersen	LBerry	GBagchi	PMcKee
DATE	04/10/97	03/24/97	04/11/97	04/11/97

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Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

Millstone Nuclear Power Station  
Unit 3

cc:

Lillian M. Cuoco, Esquire  
Senior Nuclear Counsel  
Northeast Utilities Service Company  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

Mr. Kevin T. A. McCarthy, Director  
Monitoring and Radiation Division  
Department of Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

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

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

Mr. Wayne D. Lanning  
Deputy Director of Inspections  
Special Projects Office  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Michael H. Brothers  
Vice President - Millstone Unit 3  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
P. O. Box 128  
Waterford, CT 06385

Burlington Electric Department  
c/o Robert E. Fletcher, Esq.  
271 South Union Street  
Burlington, VT 05402

Mr. M. R. Scully, Executive Director  
Connecticut Municipal Electric  
Energy Cooperative  
30 Stott Avenue  
Norwich, CT 06360

Mr. William D. Meinert  
Nuclear Engineer  
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale  
Electric Company  
P.O. Box 426  
Ludlow, MA 01056

Joseph R. Egan, Esquire  
Egan & Associates, P.C.  
2300 N Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Mr. F. C. Rothen  
Vice President - Nuclear Work Services  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
P.O. Box 128  
Waterford, CT 06385

Ernest C. Hadley, Esquire  
1040 B Main Street  
P.O. Box 549  
West Wareham, MA 02576

Mr. John Buckingham  
Department of Public Utility Control  
Electric Unit  
10 Liberty Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Mr. James S. Robinson  
Manager, Nuclear Investments and  
Administration  
New England Power Company  
25 Research Drive  
Westborough, MA 01582

Mr. D. M. Goebel  
Vice President - Nuclear Oversight  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
P.O. Box 128  
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. Mr. K. Thayer  
Recovery Officer - Nuclear Engineering  
and Support  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
P. O. Box 128  
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

Millstone Nuclear Power Station  
Unit 3

cc:

Deborah Katz, President  
Citizens Awareness Network  
P.O. Box 83  
Shelburne Falls, MA 03170

Senior Resident Inspector  
Millstone Nuclear Power Station  
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission  
P.O. Box 513  
Niantic, CT 06357

Mr. Allan Johanson, Assistant Director  
Office of Policy and Management  
Policy Development and Planning Division  
450 Capitol Avenue - MS# 52ERN  
P. O. Box 341441  
Hartford, CT 06134-1441

Citizens Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Ms. Susan Perry Luxton  
180 Great Neck Road  
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

Mr. B. D. Kenyon  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
P.O. Box 128  
Waterford, CT 06385

The Honorable Terry Concannon  
Mr. Evan Woolacott  
Co-Chairs  
Nuclear Energy Advisory Council  
Room 4035  
Legislative Office Building  
Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106