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The Northeast Utilities System

Docket No. 50-423

B16551

June 30, 1997

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

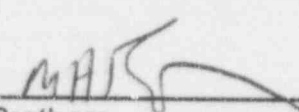
Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Commitment Update - Response to Bulletin 96-01
(Control Rod Insertion Problems)

The purpose of this letter is to provide the status on commitments previously submitted in our letter: "Response to Bulletin 96-01 (Control Rod Insertion Problems)" (B15629) dated April 8, 1996. Millstone Unit 3 has remained in cold shutdown during the period from our initial submittal to the present date and therefore has not been in the plant condition to perform all requested actions. Future actions and commitments will be determined and forwarded to you following our assessment of the latest industry guidance on this topic.

Attachment 1 provides the status for the commitments made in our letter of April 8, 1996.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. David. A. Smith, Manager - Nuclear Licensing, Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit No 3, at (860) 437-5840.

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY


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cc: H. J. Miller, Region I Administrator
A. C. Cerne, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit No. 3
J. W. Andersen, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 3
W. D. Travers, Dr., Director, Special Projects

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Attachment 1

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3

Status of Commitments
Response to Bulletin 96-01
(Control Rod Insertion Problems)

June 1997

Attachment 1

Status of Commitments
Made in Response to
NRC Bulletin 96-01
(Control Rod Insertion Problems)

The following table provides the status of each commitment made in response to NRC Bulletin 96-01 (Control Rod Insertion Problems) as described in our letter (B15629) dated April 8, 1996.

Commitment Number	Commitment	Status
B15629-MP3-1	Provide training to operators during the 1996 licensed operator requalification training.	Simulator training occurred during the third cycle of Licensed Operator Requalification Training (LORT) in 1996. This training was completed during May 1996. This commitment is completed.
B15629-MP3-2	As additional information becomes available, the operability determination will be revised as necessary.	The unit has remained in Cold Shutdown since March 1996. The operability determination has not changed as a result of the data collected. This commitment remains in effect.
B15629-MP3-3	Conduct rod drop testing at hot conditions and provide the NRC with a report summarizing the data and documenting the results.	The unit has remained in Cold Shutdown since March 1996. It has not been determined when this data would be available. Therefore, this commitment will not be completed.

Commitment Number	Commitment	Status
B15629-MP3-4	Should an outage occur which requires the reactor vessel head to be removed, Millstone Unit No. 3 will measure and evaluate drag forces on all rodged fuel assemblies once the fuel is transferred to the spent fuel pool.	The unit has remained in Cold Shutdown since March 1996. During this extended outage the reactor vessel head has not been removed. Additional data obtained from the measurement and evaluation of drag forces on all rodged fuel assemblies with the fuel transferred to the spent fuel pool has not been accomplished. Therefore, this commitment will not be completed.
B15629-MP3-5	For any shutdown greater than 72 hours during the calendar year 1996, Millstone Unit No. 3 will perform control rod drop time measurements prior to entering MODE 2 from the outage provided that control rod testing has not been performed within the last 2,500 MWD/MTU core average burnup. Control rod drop time testing will include a review of control rod drop trace recoil data.	The unit has remained in Cold Shutdown since March 1996. The unit has not been in a mode that would allow performance of control rod drop time measurements during this period. Control rod drop time testing will be completed in accordance with Technical Specifications prior to startup from the current extended outage. Additional testing will be performed in accordance with the latest industry guidance appropriate for Millstone, Unit 3.

Commitment Number	Commitment	Status
B15629-MP3-6	If any control rod fails to fully insert following a reactor trip, Millstone Unit No. 3 will perform control rod drop time tests to further evaluate operability. Control rod drop times will include a review of control rod drop trace recoil data.	The unit has remained in Cold Shutdown since March 1996. Additional data obtained from the performance of control rod drop time tests as a result of the failure of a control rod to fully insert following a reactor trip has not been accomplished since this condition has not existed. It has not been determined when this data would be available. Therefore, this commitment will not be completed.
B15629-MP3-7	Submit the Cycle 7 core design information for Millstone Unit No. 3 to the NRC once it is complete.	Cycle 7 core design information for Millstone Unit No. 3 will not be available to the NRC staff for approximately 10 months following startup from the current extended outage. This information will be provided at that time
B15629-MP3-8	Millstone Unit No. 3 will submit the required information with regard to items 3 and 4 of Bulletin 96-01 within 30 days of the completion of testing following the current shutdown and any additional shutdowns occurring during calendar year 1996.	The unit has remained in Cold Shutdown since March 1996. Therefore, no reactor trips nor additional outages of sufficient duration occurred during calendar year 1996 to allow for the testing and submission of the information required with regard to items 3 and 4 of Bulletin 96-01. This commitment is no longer applicable.