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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC TO DISCUSS DECOMMISSIONING PLANS FOR MILLSTONE 1 REACTOR
AT PUBLIC MEETING IN WATERFORD, CONN., ON AUGUST 25

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with the public on Wednesday, August 25, to discuss decommissioning plans for the permanently shutdown Millstone 1 nuclear power plant. The focal point of the discussion will be a report submitted in June by plant operator Northeast Utilities (NU) that sketches out its long-term plans for dismantling the Waterford, Conn., reactor.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at Waterford Town Hall, on Rope Ferry Road. The agenda calls for a presentation by the company describing its decommissioning plans, followed by an NRC presentation on decommissioning regulations and future plant oversight. The public will have an opportunity to question both NRC staff and NU representatives.

Millstone 1, one of three reactors at the site, last generated power in November 1995. In July 1998, NU announced it would no longer operate the plant, following the completion of an analysis indicating it might not be economically viable for the company to continue to operate the unit.

Options for decommissioning include immediate dismantlement, known as DECON, and SAFSTOR, the storage of the facility for a specified period of time before dismantlement begins to allow radioactivity to decrease.

Under the Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) submitted in June, NU would decommission Millstone 1 using a modified SAFSTOR approach. That is, the decontamination and dismantlement of some systems, components and plant structures would begin in the near future. The remainder of the plant would be placed in SAFSTOR until being decontaminated and dismantled at a future date.

The PSDAR can be viewed on the NRC web site at:
<http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/reports/ms1061499a.htm>

In addition to the August 25th meeting, NRC staff will meet with NU representatives on Friday, August 27, to discuss engineering initiatives and backlog management at the Millstone complex. That

meeting, which will be open to the public for observation, will begin at 1 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the NRC's Region I office in King of Prussia, Pa.

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