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I-96-21 Contact: Diane Screnci

March 25, 1996 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC STAFF RESCHEDULES INFORMAL PUBLIC HEARING IN WATERFORD, CT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold an informal public hearing on Monday evening, April 8, at the Waterford Town Hall, regarding the petition filed concerning Northeast Utilities' Millstone Nuclear Power Station in Waterford, Connecticut, and Seabrook Station near Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The NRC staff is collecting further information from the petitioners, NU and the public, to be used in evaluating the petition. This informal public hearing, which was rescheduled from March 7 because of inclement weather, will be limited to information relevant to issues raised in the petition and its supplement.

On August 21, 1995, a petition was submitted to the NRC on behalf of George Galatis and the citizen's group, We the People, Inc. The petitioners alleged that NU has knowingly, willingly and flagrantly operated Millstone Unit 1 in violation of its operating license for approximately 20 years. In an August 28 supplement, Mr. Galatis alleged that NU also committed violations by offloading more than one-third of the fuel core at Millstone Units 2 and 3 and Seabrook. The petition and its supplement also listed other allegations.

The informal public hearing will be held from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. The agenda begins with NRC opening remarks, followed by a presentation by the petitioner, then the licensee, and then public comments. The informal public hearing will conclude with final statements by the licensee and the petitioners.

Members of the public interested in presenting information should notify Stephen Dembek, at 301/415-1455, at least five working days prior to the hearing. If you registered to speak at the previously scheduled informal hearing, you do not need to register again.

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