

July 10, 2000

Mr. S. E. Scace - Director
Nuclear Oversight and Regulatory Affairs
c/o Mr. David A. Smith
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385-0128

SUBJECT: MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2 - ISSUANCE OF
AMENDMENT RE: ULTIMATE HEAT SINK (TAC NO. MA8083)

Dear Mr. Scace:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 247 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-65 for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2, in response to your application dated January 27, 2000, as supplemented May 30, 2000.

The amendment will modify the action statement for Technical Specification (TS) 3/4.7.11, "Ultimate Heat Sink," to permit Unit 2 to remain in operation with the ultimate heat sink water temperature greater than 75 °F and less than 77 °F, for a period of up to 12 hours provided the water temperature is verified below 77 °F at least once per hour. This is a one-time change during the summer period and will expire after October 15, 2000, and revert back to the original TS action statement. The licensee has committed to submit a new proposed change to the ultimate heat sink action requirements by December 31, 2000. This new request will utilize available generic industry guidance, as it applies to Millstone Unit 2, and provide a permanent change to this TS. The staff has reviewed this proposed TS change and determined that it is acceptable, as requested. In addition, the associated Bases for this TS will be modified to reflect these proposed changes.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jacob I. Zimmerman, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-336

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 247 to DPR-65
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC	PDI-2 R/F	E. Adensam	J. Clifford	J. Zimmerman
T. Clark	OGC	ACRS	G. Hill (2)	W. Beckner
J. Linville, RI	K. Jenison, RI	F. Akstulewicz	K. Desai	J. Tatum

ACCESSION NO: ML003727742

*SE input provided on 6/16/00
with no major changes

OFFICE	PDI-2/PM	PDI-2/LA	SRXB/SC*	OGC	PDI-2/SC
NAME	JZimmerman	TClark	FAkstulewicz		JClifford
DATE	06/29/00	06/29/00	6/16/00	06/30/00	07/07/00

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Unit 2

cc:

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

Edward L. Wilds, Jr., Ph.D.
Director, Division of Radiation
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
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Charles Brinkman, Manager
Washington Nuclear Operations
ABB Combustion Engineering
12300 Twinbrook Pkwy, Suite 330
Rockville, MD 20852

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

Mr. F. C. Rothen
Vice President - Nuclear Operations
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. J. T. Carlin
Vice President - Human Services - Nuclear
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

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

Mr. M. H. Brothers
Vice President - Nuclear Operations
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. L. J. Olivier
Senior Vice President and Chief
Nuclear Officer - Millstone
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. C. J. Schwarz
Station Director
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. B. D. Kenyon
President and CEO - NNECO
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. R. P. Necci
Vice President - Nuclear Technical Services
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Unit 2

cc:

Citizens Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Ms. Geri Winslow
P. O. Box 199
Waterford, CT 06385

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

Ms. Terry Concannon
Co-Chair
Nuclear Energy Advisory Council
41 South Buckboard Lane
Marlborough, CT 06447

Mr. Evan W. Woollacott
Co-Chair
Nuclear Energy Advisory Council
128 Terry's Plain Road
Simsbury, CT 06070

Attorney Nicholas J. Scobbo, Jr.
Ferriter, Scobbo, Caruso, Rodophele, PC
75 State Street, 7th Floor
Boston, MA 02108-1807

Mr. D. A. Smith
Manager - Regulatory Affairs
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Ms. Nancy Burton
147 Cross Highway
Redding Ridge, CT 00870

Mr. G. D. Hicks
Director - Nuclear Training Services
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY, ET AL.

DOCKET NO. 50-336

MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 247

License No. DPR-65

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee) dated January 27, 2000, as supplemented May 30, 2000, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. DPR-65 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 247, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance, and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

James W. Clifford, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: July 10, 2000

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 247

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-65

DOCKET NO. 50-336

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A, Technical Specifications, with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove

3/4 7-34

B 3/4 7-7

Insert

3/4 7-34

B 3/4 7-7

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 247

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-65

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY, ET AL.

MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2

DOCKET NO. 50-336

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated January 27, 2000, as supplemented May 30, 2000, the Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee), submitted a request for changes to the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2 (MNPS-2) Technical Specifications (TSs). The amendment would revise the action statement for Technical Specification (TS) 3/4.7.11, "Ultimate Heat Sink," to permit Unit 2 to remain in operation with the ultimate heat sink (UHS) water temperature greater than 75 °F and less than 77 °F, for a period of up to 12 hours provided the water temperature is verified below 77 °F at least once per hour. This is a one-time change during the summer period and will expire after October 15, 2000, and revert back to the original TS action statement. The Bases for the affected TS would be revised accordingly. The May 30, 2000, letter did not change the scope of the original Federal Register Notice of March 22, 2000 (65 FR 15382).

2.0 BACKGROUND

The UHS for MNPS-2 is Long Island Sound. The UHS provides the water source for the service water system and the circulating water system to remove sensible heat from both safety and non-safety related equipment and cooling systems during normal operation, shutdown and accident conditions. The UHS is required to be OPERABLE and is considered OPERABLE if the UHS water temperature is less than or equal to 75 °F. High temperatures and dry weather conditions during the summer of 1999 resulted in an elevated UHS temperature, approaching the current 75 °F limit. In addition, the UHS temperature is heavily influenced by tidal effects which can result in temperature swings of 2 to 3 degrees in a 12-hour period during normal hot weather conditions. The licensee has reviewed plant data for the past 17 years, and has found that the UHS temperature limit of 75 °F has been exceeded approximately five times, and for each time the duration was less than 2 hours.

2.0 EVALUATION

The proposed change to TS 3.7.11 will modify the action requirements to add a 12-hour period where the plant operation will be permitted if the UHS water temperature exceeds the TS limit of 75 °F, provided the temperature does not exceed 77 °F. This additional 12-hour period will provide time to allow the tidal effects on UHS water temperature to dissipate without requiring the commencement of a plant shutdown. This proposed action requirement will not change the TS Limiting Condition for Operation limit of 75 °F for UHS water temperature. This one time request is only applicable during the upcoming summer months, and will expire after October 15, 2000. The licensee will submit a new request by December 31, 2000, to resolve this problem on a permanent basis. In addition, the associated Bases for this TS will be modified to reflect these proposed changes. The staff does not object to the proposed TS Bases changes.

In order to avoid transients associated with plant derating that could result due to the unusually hot and dry weather that is anticipated at Millstone Unit 2 this summer, the staff concludes that the 12-hour completion time along with a temperature limitation of 77 °F as requested in the TS change submittal should be allowed. The staff finds this to be acceptable on a temporary basis because: a) equipment that is cooled by service water has been analyzed and found to remain within manufacturers' limitations during postulated accident conditions; b) periods when the UHS temperature limits have historically been exceeded are rare and of short duration; c) the probability of an accident occurring during the 12-hour completion time is small; and d) when in the action statement, the licensee is required to monitor the UHS temperature at least once per hour to assure that the UHS temperature will not exceed 77 °F, thereby guaranteeing that the UHS and equipment that is cooled by the UHS will remain fully functional.

Based on our review, it is our judgment that the proposed TS change will not adversely affect plant operation, jeopardize the performance of safety-related equipment, or otherwise compromise public health and safety. Therefore, we consider the proposed TS change to be acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Connecticut State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (65 FR 15382). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: K. Desai

Date: July 10, 2000