

July 3, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Hubert J. Miller
Regional Administrator

FROM: James C. Linville, Chairman /RA/
Millstone Assessment Panel

SUBJECT: FINAL MILLSTONE ASSESSMENT PANEL (MAP) MEETING
MINUTES AND CLOSURE OF THE MAP

The Millstone Assessment Panel (MAP) convened on June 14, 2000, to perform its final, quarterly review of Millstone performance and activities. I have attached the minutes from the meeting that summarize the panel's discussions, conclusions and recommendations.

The MAP members discussed the NRC senior management decision to return Millstone Units 2 and 3 to normal regulatory oversight. Further, the MAP members discussed the MAP Charter to ensure that all actions had been completed. A consensus was agreed upon that the MAP had satisfied the commitments of its charter and that the work was concluded at this time.

Attachment: June 14, 2000 MAP Meeting Minutes

Hubert J. Miller

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ATTACHMENT

MAP Meeting Minutes

Date: June 14, 2000

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

MAP Members in Attendance:

- J. Linville, Director, Millstone Inspection Directorate (MID)
- J. Clifford, Chief, Project Directorate I, Section I-2, NRR
- E. Adensam, Director, Project Directorate I
- D. Beaulieu, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit 2, MID
- T. Cerne, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit 3, MID
- J. Shea, EDO Staff

Other Attendees:

- R. Summers, Senior Project Engineer, MID
- B. Siemel, Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit 3, MID
- P. Cataldo, Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit 1, DNMS
- J. Zimmerman, Project Manager, Millstone Unit 2, NRR
- V. Nerses, Senior Project Manager, Millstone Unit 3, NRR

Meeting Summary:

Mr. Linville opened the meeting with an overview of the MAP agenda, and briefly discussed the NRC senior management decision to return Millstone Units 2 and 3 to normal regulatory oversight. He stated that Mr. Miller had approved the re-organization, aligning Millstone to the Division of Reactor Projects as part of Project Branch 6. Further, he discussed his conversations with the SLO, PAO, OCA and chairperson of the NEAC about the closure of the MAP. He stated his intent to announce the closure of the MAP and re-organization of MID at the planned PPR public meeting on June 20 and would use the final MAP meeting minutes as the vehicle to close the MAP.

Mr. Cerne provided the status of Millstone Unit 3. The unit was operating well with few challenges in the last year. The unit had been in continuous power operations for 352 days. Mr. Cerne described that they had met the commitment in reducing backlogs at Unit 3. He stated that there were few, minor findings during the initial implementation of the new reactor oversight program.

Mr. Beaulieu provided the status of Millstone Unit 2. The unit had just completed a planned refueling outage with good performance. The scheduled outage was for 45 days and the licensee completed the outage ahead of schedule, in 41 days. On June 4 a reactor trip occurred during surveillance testing due to a faulty test switch. It was determined that the switch had been the subject of GE generic communication due to causing a similar event previously. This was one of about 350 backlogged engineering items that the licensee had canceled without completing the work. The licensee had already initiated a review of these canceled activities in order to identify if additional action was required. Mr. Beaulieu stated that all PIs were green and that one current inspection activity involving the RBCCW water hammer event and lifting of relief valves was a possible white finding. NRC challenged the licensee's operability determination and corrective actions prior to restart of the plant from the

refueling. In response, the licensee took appropriate action to assure operability by gagging the thermal relief valves closed.

Mr. Cataldo provided an update of Unit 1 decommissioning activities, especially as they relate to activities affecting Units 2 and 3. The focus of the discussion was on the Alternate Power Supply. Mr. Cataldo explained that the licensee was expected to make a license change submittal in August and expects an expedited review to be completed by October 2000. Ms. Adensam stated that the licensee needs to talk better with the staff on these type of actions.

Mr. Zimmerman discussed the status of the Unit 2 licensing actions. NRR is currently reviewing 7 licensing actions. The focus of the conversation was on the actions supporting the UHS change and the 4160 cross-tie. Mr. Zimmerman stated that there were several Green Tickets associated with the license transfer and continuity of management, especially in light of recent relatively good performance. Also of concern was plant aging and IP2.

Mr. Nerses discussed the status of the Unit 3 spent fuel pool rerack amendment and that the schedule is not clear at this time. Oral arguments are scheduled for 7/19 and 7/20 for the three contentions that the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board admitted for litigation on February 9, 2000. The staff continues to maintain its amendment review schedule.

Mr. Summers reviewed the MAP commitments and briefly discussed the plant strategy papers. Ms. Adensam recommended that we need to continue to monitor and be able to speak to the public about SCWE, even though we are in the new reactor oversight process.

Mr. Linville described the planned activities for the PPR meeting and senior management site visit. The panel members concluded that all MAP commitments in the charter had been acceptably completed and all attending members agreed that the work of the MAP was complete.

Action Item assigned to J. Shea:

Follow-up to confirm that the Commission does not expect any additional reports from the staff regarding the efforts of LHC regarding their review of SCWE.

Action Completion:

On June 21, J. Shea reported that he had confirmed that the Commission staff does not expect any additional reports about LHC. However, they do expect that the staff will continue to monitor that activity and inform the Commission if any negative conclusion is found.