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August 4, 2000

Charles Bechhoefer
Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Richard F. Cole
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Charles N. Kelber
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subj: Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
(Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3)
Docket No. 50-423-LA-3

Administrative Judges:

At the oral argument in this matter held on Wednesday, July 19, 2000, we responded to several technical questions from the Licensing Board. Based on a review of the transcript, we identified one area where we believe a more definitive response based on a review of design documentation is warranted to assure that the record is complete and accurate.

At Tr. 409-10, we responded to questions from Judge Cole related to the depth of the spent fuel pool, the depth of water in the spent fuel pool above the top of the fuel assemblies, and the levels that the spent fuel pool low-level and high-level alarms are set. The answers we provided were approximations made at the time. The correct information from subsequent research is as follows:

- The bottom of the spent fuel pool is at plant elevation 11'-3" and the nominal water level is at elevation 49'-10", giving a total pool depth of 38'-7".

- As we stated, Technical Specifications require that 23 feet of water be maintained above the tops of the fuel assemblies. But, in reality, with the nominal pool water level, there is 26'-7" above the top of seated assemblies.

Template = SECY-043

SECY-02

- The high-level alarm setpoint is 50'-1" and the low-level alarm is 49'-6", so that the range between the low-level and high-level alarms is 7 inches.

We trust that this information is responsive to the Licensing Board's questions.

Sincerely,

David A. Repka

David A. Repka
Counsel for Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

Enclosure
cc: Service List