



**Northeast
Nuclear Energy**

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The Northeast Utilities System

FER - 8 2001

Docket Nos. 50-245
50-336
50-423
B18330

RE: 10 CFR 50.59

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3
Implementation of the Revised 10 CFR 50.59,
Changes, Tests and Experiments

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of the Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) schedule for implementation of the final revised rule for 10 CFR 50.59, Changes, Tests and Experiments. This schedule applies to Millstone Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3. This letter is responsive to the guidance contained in the NRC Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2001-03,⁽¹⁾ "Changes, Tests and Experiments." The RIS guidance recommends that a licensee clearly communicate with the NRC their implementation schedule if implementation is scheduled to occur later than March 13, 2001.

The effective date for the revised final 10 CFR 50.59, was established in a December 13, 2000, *Federal Register Notice* (65 FR 77773), as March 13, 2001. As discussed in the RIS 2001-03, the NRC has stated that to permit an orderly transition to the revised rule, the licensee may implement the rule later than this date. Although an exemption is not necessary, the RIS 2001-03 suggested that a licensee may want to communicate its implementation plan to the NRC. It is our intention to implement the revised requirements of 10 CFR 50.59 by July 15, 2001. As part of our implementation planning, we also took into account major evolutions, such as, refueling outage for

⁽¹⁾ NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 2001-03, "Changes, Tests and Experiments," dated January 23, 2001.

ADD1

Millstone Unit No. 3 (which commenced on February 3, 2001), and separation projects for Millstone Unit No. 1 to achieve cold and dark status by April 1, 2001.

Because of these activities, there is insufficient time to train personnel in the revised process. Thus, the current schedule for implementing the revised final rule is July 15, 2001. Until that time, we will continue to implement our existing 10 CFR 50.59 review process.

The regulatory commitments contained in this letter are located in Attachment 1.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. David A. Smith at (860) 437-5840.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



Raymond P. Necci
Vice President - Nuclear Technical Services

Attachment (1): List of Regulatory Commitments

cc: H. J. Miller, Region I Administrator
J. B. Hickman, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 1
P. C. Cataldo, Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit No. 2
J. I. Zimmerman, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 2
S. R. Jones, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit No. 2
V. Nerses, NRC Senior Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 3
A. C. Cerne, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit No. 3

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Attachment 1

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3

List of Regulatory Commitments

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The following table identifies actions committed to by NNECO in this document.

Number	Commitments	Due
B18330-01	Incorporate the Final 10 CFR 50.59 rule into implementing procedures.	July 15, 2001