March 9, 2001

Mr. Raymond P. Necci Vice President-Nuclear Oversight and Regulatory Affairs c/o David A. Smith, Manager Regulatory Affairs Northeast Nuclear Energy Company P. O. Box 128 Waterford, Connecticut 06385

SUBJECT: MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 1 - EXEMPTION FROM A SPECIFIC REQUIREMENT OF 10 CFR PART 73 (TAC NO. MA8516)

Dear Mr. Necci:

By letter dated October 27, 2000, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) requested that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) grant an exemption from a specific physical security requirement contained in 10 CFR 73.55 to allow the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1 (MP1) to discontinue a security plan commitment as a result of the permanently shutdown and defueled status of the facility. Specifically, NNECO requested an exemption from requiring the MP1 control room to be bullet resisting in accordance with the existing security plan commitment.

The staff has determined that the requested exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR 73.55(c)(6) for MP1, as described in the proposed submittal, is not required, since the Unit No. 1 and Unit No. 2 control rooms share the same control room space, and this space must be maintained as a vital area even with the decommissioning process of Unit No. 1. There will no longer be a need for a Unit 1 control room once the new central monitoring station has been built, since the fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel and relocated to the spent fuel pool. Accordingly, your request is not granted.

Concerning the addition of a new Unit No. 1 central monitoring station to be located in the operating reactor protected area, NNECO has indicated that this station will have no equipment that could impact rapid change to the spent fuel pool configuration. However, this station will have communication capability with the other control rooms, the on-site security force, and the local law enforcement agencies. The staff agrees that there is no regulatory requirement for this central monitoring station to be bullet resisting, since, unlike an operating reactor control room, it lacks operational capabilities that could result in operator actions that may affect public health and safety. If MP1 is removed from the reactor protected area at some point in the

future, NNECO will have to submit a 10 CFR 50.90 license amendment to address the new security configuration and security program for this site.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John B. Hickman, Project Manager, Section 2 Project Directorate IV and Decommissioning Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-245

cc w/encl: See next page

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Sincerely,

/RA/

John B. Hickman, Project Manager, Section 2 Project Directorate IV and Decommissioning Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit 1

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