

January 4, 1991

Docket No. 50-423

Mr. Edward J. Mrocza  
Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Engineering and Operations  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company  
P. O. Box 270  
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

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Dear Mr. Mrocza:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
AND NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY  
OPERATING LICENSE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING (TAC NO. 77924)

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact which relates to your applications for license amendments dated October 25, 1990, November 1, 1990 (with Supplements dated November 2, 1990 and December 4, 1990) and November 30, 1990 which are associated with Cycle 4 operation of Millstone Unit 3.

The applications for license amendments would change the Technical Specifications associated with the following: (1) removal of the Autoclosure Interlock for the Residual Heat Removal System, (2) a core reload involving a modification to the fuel design and revised safety analyses and (3) temperature limits for the spent fuel pool.

Also enclosed is a "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Opportunity for a Hearing" associated with the above referenced license amendments.

The notice and environmental assessment are being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

David H. Jaffe, Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosures:  
As stated

cc w/enclosures:  
See next page

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NAME	: SNorris	: DJaffe	: JFStolz	: STURK	:
DATE	: 12/20/90	: 12/20/90	: 12/21/90	: 12/28/90	:

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Mr. E. J. Mroczka  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

Millstone Nuclear Power Station  
Unit No. 3

cc:

Gerald Garfield, Esquire  
Day, Berry and Howard  
Counselors at Law  
City Place  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3499

R. M. Kacich, Manager  
Generation Facilities Licensing  
Northeast Utilities Service Company  
Post Office Box 270  
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

W. D. Romberg, Vice President  
Nuclear Operations  
Northeast Utilities Service Company  
Post Office Box 270  
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

D. O. Nordquist  
Director of Quality Services  
Northeast Utilities Service Company  
Post Office Box 270  
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Kevin McCarthy, Director  
Radiation Control Unit  
Department of Environmental Protection  
State Office Building  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Regional Administrator  
Region I  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Bradford S. Chase, Under Secretary  
Energy Division  
Office of Policy and Management  
80 Washington Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

First Selectmen  
Town of Waterford  
Hall of Records  
200 Boston Post Road  
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

S. E. Scace, Nuclear Station Director  
Millstone Nuclear Power Station  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
Post Office Box 128  
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

W. J. Raymond, Resident Inspector  
Millstone Nuclear Power Station  
c/o U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Post Office Box 811  
Niantic, Connecticut 06357

C. H. Clement, Nuclear Unit Director  
Millstone Unit No. 3  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
Post Office Box 128  
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

M. R. Scully, Executive Director  
Connecticut Municipal Electric  
Energy Cooperative  
30 Stott Avenue  
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

Ms. Jane Spector  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
825 N. Capitol Street, N.E.  
Room 8608C  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Mr. Alan Menard, Manager  
Technical Services  
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale  
Electric Company  
Post Office Box 426  
Ludlow, Massachusetts 01056

Burlington Electric Department  
c/o Robert E. Fletcher, Esq.  
271 South Union Street  
Burlington, Vermont 05402

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY  
MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 3  
DOCKET NO. 50-423

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-49, issued to Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee) for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3, located at the licensee's site in New London County, Connecticut.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action:

By applications for license amendments dated October 25, 1990, November 1, 1990 (with Supplements dated November 2, 1990 and December 4, 1990) and November 30, 1990, the licensee requested changes to the Millstone Unit 3 Technical Specifications (TS) associated with Cycle 4 operation. The applications for license amendments would change the TS associated with the following: (1) removal of the Autoclosure Interlock (ACI) for the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) System, (2) a core reload involving a modification to the fuel design and revised safety analyses and (3) temperature limits for the spent fuel pool.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed license amendment is needed for start-up and Cycle 4 operation of Millstone Unit 3.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

With regard to use of the modified fuel, the licensee reanalyzed the radiological consequences of two potential accidents that could have increased radiological consequences. The first accident, the locked rotor accident, was found to have potential radiological consequences that are bounded by the existing design basis accident. The second accident, the fuel handling accident, was found to have potential radiological consequences that are bounded by the current FSAR referenced calculations.

With regard to removal of the ACI, removal of the RHR ACI function addresses Commission concerns regarding the potential for failure of the ACI circuitry to cause inadvertent isolation of the RHR system with subsequent loss of RHR capability during cold shutdown and refueling operation. In addition, this proposed change is consistent with the recommendations of Generic Letter 88-17, "Loss of Decay Heat Removal." The loss of RHR during refueling could have significant offsite radiological consequences.

With regard to temperature limits associated with the SFP, the proposed change allows continued use of existing Cycle 3 specific calculations associated with spent fuel pool cooling and piping systems and pool structure integrity. Thus, no additional environmental consequences are associated with this proposed TS change.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

It has been concluded that there is no measurable impact associated with the proposed amendment; any alternatives to the amendment would have either essentially the same or greater environmental impact.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources different from or beyond the scope of resources used during normal plant operation, which were assessed in the Final Environmental Statement relating to plant operation, dated December 1984 (NUREG-1064).

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's requests that support the proposed amendment. The staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

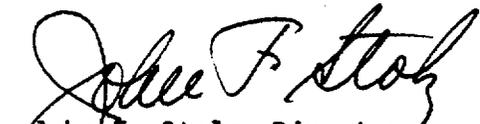
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed amendment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the applications for license amendment dated October 25, 1990, November 1, 1990 (with Supplements dated November 2, 1990 and December 4, 1990) and November 30, 1990. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20555, and at the local public document room located at the Learning Resources Center, Thames Valley State Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut 06360.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 4th day of January 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

  
John F. Stolz, Director  
Project Directorate I-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY  
DOCKET NO. 50-423  
NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-49, issued to Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al (the licensee), for operation of the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3, located in New London County, Connecticut.

The applications for license amendments would change the Technical Specifications associated with the following: (1) removal of the Autoclosure Interlock (ACI) for the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) System, (2) a core reload involving a modification to the fuel design and revised safety analyses and (3) temperature limits for the spent fuel pool.

Prior to issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

By February 11, 1991, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene.

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Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the Local Public Document Room located at the Learning Resources Center, Thames Valley State Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut 06360. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which

petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first pre-hearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20555, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last ten (10) days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 325-6000 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number 3737 and the following message addressed to John F. Stolz: petitioner's name and telephone number; date petition was mailed; plant name; and publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, and to Gerald Garfield, Esquire, Day, Berry & Howard, Counselors at Law, City Place, Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3499, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic

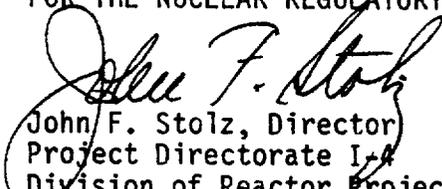
Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

If a request for a hearing is received, the Commission's staff may issue the amendment after it completes its technical review and prior to the completion of any required hearing if it publishes a further notice for public comment of its proposed finding of no significant hazards consideration in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91 and 50.92.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendments dated October 25, 1990, November 1, 1990 (with Supplements dated November 2, 1990 and December 4, 1990) and November 30, 1990, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555, and at the Local Public Document Room, the Learning Resources Center, Thames Valley State Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut 06360.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 4th day of January 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

  
John F. Stolz, Director  
Project Directorate I,  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation