

March 1, 1999

Mr. Martin L. Bowling, Jr.
Recovery Officer - Technical Services
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
c/o Ms. Patricia A. Loftus
Director - Regulatory Affairs
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT - MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION,
UNIT NO. 3 (TAC NO. MA2054)

Dear Mr. Bowling:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 166 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-49 for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3, in response to your application dated June 10, 1998, as supplemented October 30, 1998.

The amendment revises the Millstone Unit 3 licensing basis associated with post-accident mitigation activities, vital area access travel routes, and the associated action completion times in the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR). Northeast Nuclear Energy Company determined that the FSAR description of post-accident vital area routing was out of date because the radiological control area boundary fence created an access problem on the designated routes to the hydrogen recombiner and fuel building. The revised licensing basis will be incorporated into the FSAR and will revise the routes to accommodate the fence location and allow for the time to unlock gates.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

Original signed by S. Dembek for:
James W. Andersen, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-423

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 166 to NPF-49
2. Safety Evaluation

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DATE	2/26/99 FOR	2/24/99	02/10/99	2/24/99	

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James W. Andersen", followed by the word "FOR" in a smaller, handwritten font.

James W. Andersen, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-423

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 166 to NPF-49
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encs: See next page

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Unit 3**

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Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Unit 3

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY, ET AL.

DOCKET NO. 50-423

MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 3

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. **166**
License No. NPF-49

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee) dated June 10, 1998, as supplemented October 30, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

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2. Accordingly, the license is amended to authorize revision of the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) as set forth in the application for amendment by the licensee, dated June 10, 1998, as supplemented October 30, 1998. The licensee shall update the FSAR to reflect the description of the post-accident vital area routing.
3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance, to be implemented within 60 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Elinor G. Adensam, Director
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance: March 1, 1999



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 166

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-49

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY, ET AL.

MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 3

DOCKET NO. 50-423

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 10, 1998, as supplemented October 30, 1998, the Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee), submitted a request for a change to the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3 licensing basis. The requested amendment would revise the Millstone Unit 3 licensing basis associated with post-accident mitigation activities, vital area access travel routes, and the associated action completion times. The licensee determined that the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) description of post-accident vital area routing was out of date because the radiological control area boundary fence created an access problem on the designated routes to the hydrogen recombiner and fuel building. The revised licensing basis would be incorporated into the FSAR and would revise the routes to accommodate the fence location and allow for the time to unlock gates. The October 30, 1998, letter provided clarifying information that did not change the scope of the June 10, 1998, application and the initial proposed no significant hazards consideration determination.

2.0 EVALUATION

Consistent with NUREG-0737, Item II.B.2, "Design Review of Plant Shielding and Environmental Qualification Equipment for Spaces/Systems Which May Be Used in Post-Accident Operations," the licensee has provided a radiation and shielding design review that identifies the location of vital areas and equipment areas in which personnel occupancy may be unduly limited during operations following an accident resulting in a degraded core.

The staff reviewed the licensee's identification of areas which require occupancy in order to control, monitor, and evaluate the accident. For each of these areas, the licensee has provided an exposure analysis including radiation maps, access routes, and stay times. These areas are the auxiliary building, hydrogen recombiner building, fuel building, turbine building, diesel generator area, sample analysis area, and control room. The licensee's calculations of source terms and post-accident whole body doses used for shielding design are based on the guidance of TMI Action Plan, Item II.B.2.

The licensee's post-accident access and shielding study for Millstone Unit 3 shows that no personnel will be exposed to post-accident doses greater than the General Design Criterion 19 dose guidelines of 5 rem whole body or its equivalent to any part of the body for the duration of the accident.

On the basis of its review, the staff has concluded that the licensee has performed an acceptable radiation and shielding design review and has satisfactorily demonstrated that the plant design allows for the post-accident vital area access without exceeding the dose criteria of TMI Action Plan, Item II.B.2. Therefore, the amendment is acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Connecticut State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (63 FR 38202, dated July 15, 1998). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: R. Tadesse

Date: **March 1, 1999**