

Mr. Neil S. Carns
Senior Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
c/o Ms. Patricia A. Loftus
Director - Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

August 5, 1997

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT (TAC NO. M99016)

Dear Mr. Carns:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 145 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-49 for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3, in response to your application dated June 13, 1997.

The amendment modifies Technical Specification (TS) Surveillance Requirement 4.4.1.3.3 to be consistent with the requirements of TS 3.4.1.3. Specifically, the change brings TS 4.4.1.3.3 into agreement with TS 3.4.1.3 by requiring that the specified reactor coolant and/or residual heat removal system loops be verified in operation and circulating reactor coolant at least once per 12 hours during Mode 4.

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:

James W. Andersen, Project Manager
Special Projects Office - Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-423

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 145 to NPF-49
2. Safety Evaluation

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

August 5, 1997

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JW Andersen", is written over the typed name.

James W. Andersen, Project Manager
Special Projects Office - Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-423

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 145 to NPF-49
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

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. 145
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 13, 1997, 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.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-49 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 145, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, both of which are attached hereto are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance, to be implemented within 60 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Phillip F. McKee
Deputy Director for Licensing
Special Projects Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: August 5, 1997

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 145

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-49

DOCKET NO. 50-423

Replace the following page of the Appendix A, Technical Specifications, with the attached page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains a vertical line indicating the area of change.

Remove

3/4 4-4

Insert

3/4 4-4

REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM

HOT SHUTDOWN

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.4.1.3.1 The required reactor coolant pump(s), if not in operation, shall be determined OPERABLE once per 7 days by verifying correct breaker alignments and indicated power availability.

4.4.1.3.2 The required steam generator(s) shall be determined OPERABLE by verifying secondary side water level to be greater than or equal to 17% at least once per 12 hours.

4.4.1.3.3 The required loops shall be verified in operation and circulating | reactor coolant at least once per 12 hours.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 145

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 13, 1997, the Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee), submitted a request for changes to the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3 Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would modify TS Surveillance Requirement 4.4.1.3.3 to be consistent with the requirements of TS 3.4.1.3. Specifically, the change would bring TS Surveillance 4.4.1.3.3 into agreement with TS 3.4.1.3 by requiring that the specified reactor coolant and/or residual heat removal (RHR) system loops be verified in operation and circulating reactor coolant at least once per 12 hours during Mode 4.

2.0 EVALUATION

TS 3.4.1.3 currently requires at least two of the reactor coolant loops listed therein be operable with at least two reactor coolant loops in operation when the reactor trip system breakers are closed. It further requires at least two of the listed loops be operable and at least one of the loops be in operation with the reactor trip breakers open. TS 3.4.1.3 is applicable in Mode 4 and lists the following loops: (1) reactor coolant loop 1; (2) reactor coolant loop 2; (3) reactor coolant loop 3; (4) reactor coolant loop 4; (5) RHR loop 1; and (6) RHR loop 2.

TS Surveillance Requirement 4.4.1.3.3 currently requires that at least one reactor coolant or RHR loop be verified in operation and circulating reactor coolant at least once per 12 hours.

In its June 13, 1997, letter, the licensee stated that as currently written, TS Surveillance Requirement 4.4.1.3.3 does not adequately ensure compliance with TS 3.4.1.3. The licensee stated that the proposed change is necessary to bring TS Surveillance Requirement 4.4.1.3.3 in agreement with TS 3.4.1.3. The licensee proposed that TS Surveillance Requirement be revised to read as follows:

The required loops shall be verified in operation and circulating reactor coolant at least once per 12 hours.

The licensee stated that the proposed change will require verification of (1) at least two reactor coolant system loops being operable with at least two reactor coolant system loops in operation when the reactor trip system breakers are closed, and (2) at least two of the listed loops being operable and one in operation when the reactor trip system breakers are open.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's submittal and has determined that the proposed change is acceptable. This determination is based on the need for the TS and its associated Surveillance Requirement to be consistent with each other and that TS Surveillance Requirement 4.4.1.3.3 will ensure compliance with TS 3.4.1.3.

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 surveillance requirement. 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 (62 FR 35850 dated July 2, 1997). 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: J. Andersen

Date: August 5, 1997