

August 16, 2001

Mr. J. Alan Price, Vice-President -  
Nuclear Technical Services/Millstone  
c/o Mr. D. A. Smith, Process Owner - Regulatory Affairs  
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.  
Rope Ferry Road  
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP - MILLSTONE UNIT 3

Dear Mr. Price:

On August 14, 2001, the NRC staff completed a review of the performance indicators of Millstone Unit 3 as reflected in the performance indicators for the second quarter of calendar year 2001. Our review identified that you have crossed the threshold from Green to White for the High Pressure Injection System (HPIS) Unavailability performance indicator. This threshold was crossed primarily as a result of one of two trains of the charging/safety injection system cooling water support system experiencing air binding of an associated heat exchanger. We further understand that Millstone continues to evaluate this reported condition to determine whether the cooling system would have performed acceptably in spite of the identified deficiency. The NRC staff noted that all other PIs, affecting this or other cornerstones, were within the Green band. Further, the staff did not identify any significant inspection findings at Millstone Unit 3. Therefore, as a result of the single, reported White PI in the mitigating systems cornerstone, we plan to conduct supplemental inspection procedure 95001 during the third quarter of calendar year 2001 to better understand the causes contributing to this issue. The NRC may defer this planned inspection after Millstone concludes its ongoing evaluation of the operability of the cooling system and the affect on the HPIS Unavailability PI.

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Please contact Mr. Curtis J. Cowgill at 610-337-5233 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,  
**/RA R. V. Crlenjak for/**  
A. Randolph Blough, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

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License No.: NPF-49  
cc w/encls:

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3

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