

June 18, 2002

Mr. J. A. Price
Vice President - Nuclear Technical Services - Millstone
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
c/o Mr. David A. Smith
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

SUBJECT: BULLETIN 2001-01, "CIRCUMFERENTIAL CRACKING OF REACTOR
PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD PENETRATION NOZZLES," RESPONSES FOR
MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2 (TAC NO. MB2639)

Dear Mr. Price:

On August 3, 2001, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff issued Bulletin 2001-01, "Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles," to the industry requesting that addressees provide information related to the structural integrity of the reactor pressure vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles for their respective facilities, including the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking that has been found to date, the inspections and repairs that have been undertaken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, and the basis for concluding that their plans for future inspections will ensure compliance with applicable regulatory requirements at their respective pressurized water reactor (PWR) plants. You were requested to respond to Items 1 and 4 of the Bulletin within 30 days of its issuance.

You provided your Bulletin response by letters dated September 4 and December 28, 2001, and February 7 and 18, 2002, indicating that your plant is in the category of plants considered as having moderate susceptibility to VHP nozzle cracking, based on a relative susceptibility ranking of more than 5 and less than 30 effective full power years from the Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3, condition. The NRC staff finds that you have provided the requested information. Your Bulletin responses stated your intent to perform a volumetric examination of 100 percent of the VHP nozzles at the next refueling outage, which began February 16, 2002. The NRC staff has concluded that the inspection schedule and scope described in your Bulletin response provide reasonable assurance that public health and safety will be maintained at your plant.

You were also requested to respond to Item 5 of the Bulletin within 30 days after plant restart following your next refueling outage. It is noted that you provided the requested information by letters dated April 30 and May 30, 2002.

J. A. Price

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1420. This completes the staff's action on TAC No. MB2639.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard B. Ennis, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-336

cc: See next page

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- 2 -

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