

From: <NancyBurtonEsc [REDACTED]>
 To: <foia@nrc.gov>
 Date: Tue, Apr 19, 2005 8:18 AM
 Subject: Millstone Steam Relief Valves

FOI/PA REQUEST

Case No: 2005-0208
 Date Rec'd: 4-19-05
 Specialist: Brown
 Related Cases:

CONNECTICUT COALITION AGAINST MILLSTONE
 www.mothballmillstone.org (<http://www.mothballmillstone.org>)

April 19, 2005

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Mail Stop T6-D8
 Washington DC 20555-0001

Re: Millstone Nuclear Power Station

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a request pursuant to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") for the following:

All records pertaining to inspections, licensee event reports, condition reports and other reports of failures, degraded conditions, malfunctions and inoperability involving steam relief valves at Millstone Units 2 and 3.

We request that you assign "expedited" status to this request. The Connecticut Coalition Against Millstone is a non-commercial organization consisting of non-profit public-interest organizations and individuals who serve as volunteers. The Coalition is dedicated to disseminating information at no charge to the public and the news media by means of its website, [_www.mothballmillstone.org_](http://www.mothballmillstone.org) (<http://www.mothballmillstone.org>) and through other modes of communication. We believe there is an urgent need to inform the public about the April 17, 2005 Class II emergency at Millstone with regard to the NRC-and-licensure-identified failure of steam relief valves as a contributing cause of the emergency and to share information concerning historical problems involving safety relief valves if such occurred. Throughout the day of the event in question, the population in the immediate vicinity of Millstone was alarmed by the sight of continuous cascading clouds of steam and disturbing noises emanating from the plant. It has been reported that more than 100 individuals telephoned Millstone site security to express their anxiety about the obviously unusual and forbidding conditions. We understand from news media reports that Millstone Unit 2 also suffered a steam relief valve failure two years earlier.

We further request that you waive fees associated with this submission in accordance with your guidelines, as follows:

* Describe the purpose for which you intend to use the requested information.

The Coalition intends to review the information to be provided pursuant to this request and make it available in an accessible format to the public as soon as possible by means of the Coalition's website and other modes of communication.

* Explain the extent to which you will extract and analyze the substantive

content of the requested records.

The Coalition will extract and analyze all substantive content of the requested records and prepare a summary of the most important facts.

* Describe the nature of the specific activity or research in which you will use the requested records and the specific qualifications you possess to utilize information for the intended purpose in such a way that it will contribute to public understanding.

The Coalition was created in 1999 to bind public-interest organizations and citizens in a campaign to raise public awareness of the activities of the Millstone Nuclear Power Station. The Coalition has engaged in many campaigns to contribute to public understanding. For example, the Coalition has been closely involved in issues pertaining to air and water effluent discharges from the plant and other environmental issues; it has campaigned to raise public awareness of health and safety issues pertaining to Millstone; and it has participated in public symposia devoted to Millstone issues. In the course of many of these pursuits, the Coalition has obtained input and consultation from qualified experts in many fields, including nuclear engineering, oncology, health physics, chemistry, marine biology and epidemiology, among many others. To the extent that the requested records may contain information appropriate for review by expert consultants, the Coalition is prepared to obtain such assistance.

* Describe the likely impact on the public's understanding of the subject, compared to the level of public understanding of the subject before disclosure of the requested information.

At present, there is an information vacuum with regarding to the events and circumstances involving in the April 17, 2005 Class II emergency at Millstone. The only information presently available to the public is limited information provided by the licensee, Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc., to news media, and limited information provided by the NRC's Office of Public Affairs and such information as the NRC may choose to make available on its website. The information released to the public to date is sparse and notable for its lack of detail. It is therefore reasonably anticipated that the public's understanding of the subject will be greatly enhanced through disclosure of the requested information to the Coalition.

* Describe the size and nature of the public segment whose understanding will be increased by disclosing the requested information.

The Coalition's primary means of communication is through its website, [_www.mothballmillstone_ \(http://www.mothballmillstone\)](http://www.mothballmillstone). The information the Coalition posts on its website has a global audience. In addition, the Coalition anticipates it will release summaries of information received to the news media with an audience in the most affected communities of Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York. The NRC has estimated that 2,868,207 people live within 50 miles of Millstone; this is the target audience the Coalition will endeavor to inform.

* Describe the means by which you intend to disseminate the requested information to the general public.

The Coalition will disseminate the requested information both on its

website, [_www.mothballmillstone.org_](http://www.mothballmillstone.org) (<http://www.mothballmillstone.org>) , and by others means which include press releases, fliers, public events, symposia, community outreach, letters to government officials and other means of communication.

* Indicate whether you will provide public access to the requested information free of charge or in return for an access or publication fee.

The Coalition will provide public access to the requested information free of charge. We appreciate your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Nancy Burton

Please respond to:
Nancy Burton

