

# NORTHEAST UTILITIES



THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY  
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY  
HOLYOKE WATER POWER COMPANY  
NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY  
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

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March 16, 1990

Docket Nos. 50-245

50-336

A08489

Re: Inspection Report  
Nos. 50-245/89-25,  
50-336/89-23

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2  
Check Valves  
Inspection Report Nos. 50-245/89-25, 50-336/89-23

In a letter dated January 19, 1990, <sup>(1)</sup> the NRC transmitted the results of the routine resident safety inspection conducted at Millstone Unit Nos. 1 and 2 during October 21 through December 4, 1989. In its letter, the Staff requested that Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) provide plans and schedules for the check valve performance improvement program.

NNECO's check valve program is being reevaluated based on the results of a recent INPO evaluation of our response to SOER 86-03. The following is a summary of the plans currently being implemented which will address the concerns identified in the Staff's inspection report:

- o The Millstone Unit No. 3 check valve design review has been completed. The results of that review are being factored into the development of enhanced preventive maintenance procedures.
- o A design review of important check valves is being completed on Millstone Unit Nos. 1 and 2 as part of the actions to address reopened SOER 86-03. The results of this review will be factored into enhanced preventive maintenance procedures.
- o The check valve program will also utilize applicable industry experience available via the NPRDS service operated by INPO as well as plant-specific check valve experiences as input into specific check valve maintenance practices and inspection intervals. Check valve failures at

(1) E. C. Wenzinger letter to E. J. Mroczka, "NRC Region I Combined Inspection Nos. 50-245/89-25; 50-336/89-23," dated January 19, 1990.

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Millstone and associated root cause assessments will be factored into the enhanced check valve preventive maintenance program.

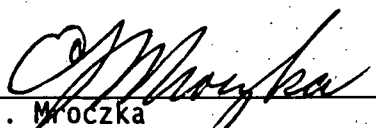
The check valve upgrade program will assess any specific valve anomalies discovered during the design review which may influence preventive maintenance decisions and input them into the preventive maintenance program. Maintenance inspection intervals or other preventive measures will be specified to add further assurance that reliable valve operation will be achieved. At this point in time, it is not appropriate to specify the scope and extent of preventive maintenance measures which will be required to enhance check valve operability. These will be done on a case-by-case basis.

As the program is defined further, additional information will be available to the NRC Staff to assess this item. The check valve review effort will be completed and inspection criteria and intervals defined for the entire station by the end of June 1990. We anticipate that this effort will provide additional information on the performance of check valves installed at the Millstone Station and allow an accurate assessment of potential areas where additional attention is needed to improve check valve performance.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

  
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E. J. Mroczka  
Senior Vice President

cc: W. T. Russell, Region I Administrator  
M. L. Boyle, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 1  
G. S. Vissing, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 2  
W. J. Raymond, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3