



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

Docket Nos. 50-213/245/336/423

The Honorable Ella Grasso  
Governor of Connecticut  
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Dear Governor Grasso:

This is in response to your letter dated December 13, 1979, which requested certain documents referenced in Dr. Hendrie's letter of August 10, 1979, be forwarded to your Under Secretary for Energy and Office of Civil Preparedness. You also requested certain follow-up information relating to Connecticut's nuclear power facilities and plants under construction, in conjunction with the lessons learned from Three Mile Island Unit 2 (TMI-2).

With respect to your concern about plants under construction, please be assured that our assessment of the lessons learned from the events at TMI-2 does encompass both the construction permit and operating license review phases, as well as prompt implementation on operating reactors.

You requested that certain Safety Evaluation Reports for Millstone 1, Millstone 2 and Connecticut Yankee (Haddam Neck) be forwarded to Mr. Thomas H. Fitzpatrick, your Under Secretary for Energy. By copy of this letter we are forwarding Mr. Fitzpatrick copies of our Evaluations of: (1) Millstone 2 Response to IE Bulletin 79-06B dated June 7, 1979; (2) Millstone 1 Response to IE Bulletin 79-08 dated August 7, 1979, and (3) Connecticut Yankee Response to IE Bulletin 79-06A and Revision 1 thereto dated March 31, 1980. Our review of IE Bulletin 79-01 for Connecticut Yankee's Haddam Neck Plant is being continued in the NRC's Systematic Evaluation Program.

You also questioned your assumption that the design changes recommended to Northeast Nuclear Energy Company by the vendors are to be followed, and that the NRC will monitor and inspect these changes. The NRC will review and approve all the required changes and these changes will be monitored and inspected by our Office of Inspection and Enforcement to assure proper implementation.

In regard to upgrading and expanding emergency response planning for facilities in your State, you expressed concern as to whether your Office of Civil Preparedness has received a report similar to NUREG-0560 for nuclear plants in the State of Connecticut. The NRC distribution system for NUREG reports is aimed at keeping State officials informed on subjects of interest to them. However, to be sure that your Office of Civil Preparedness has all of those reports which deal in whole or in part with emergency preparedness, we are transmitting by copy of this letter NUREG-0560, 0578, 0585, 0611, 0635, and 0654, all of which have been recently issued.

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A team of the NRC and the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Planning Task Force is visiting every operating nuclear reactor site in the country to evaluate the upgrading of the site's emergency planning since the Three Mile Island accident. Millstone Units Nos. 1 and 2 and the Haddam Neck Nuclear Power Stations at Waterford and East Hampton, Connecticut were visited on April 1 through 3, 1980.

After visiting the sites on April 1, the Task Force Team held a technical meeting with the Northeast Nuclear Energy Company during the afternoon of April 2 and morning of April 3, 1980 in the Lyme Consolidated School. The meeting was open to observation by the public. An evening meeting was held on April 3 in the Lyme Consolidated School to invite comments from the public on the subject of Emergency Preparedness. State and local officials were notified and were invited to attend both the site visits and the review meetings.

Commission review in the area of operator training and qualification is continuing and can be expected to result in additional criteria. Moreover, requirements will be established through rule making proceedings. Such proceedings will allow public participation. A copy of my letter dated March 22, 1980 addressed to all power reactor applicants and licensees regarding this matter is enclosed for your information.

I hope that this is responsive to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:

Letter dated March 22, 1980 from  
Mr. Denton to applicants and  
licensees titled "Qualifications  
of Reactor Operators"

cc with Safety Evaluations for Millstone  
1 & 2 and Haddam Neck:

Mr. Thomas H. Fitzpatrick  
Under Secretary for Energy  
State of Connecticut  
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

cc with stated NUREG's:

Office of Civil Preparedness  
360 Broad Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06115



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ALL POWER REACTOR APPLICANTS AND LICENSEES

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: QUALIFICATIONS OF REACTOR OPERATORS

In a letter dated September 13, 1979, we informed you of NRR requirements established as of that date based on our review of the TMI-2 accident. Enclosure 9 to the letter outlined the staff recommendations concerning improvements in the area of operator training for your information. Since that time, the Commission has acted on the staff recommendations.

It is the purpose of this letter to set forth the revised criteria to be used by the staff in evaluating reactor operator training and licensing that can be implemented under the current regulations and to establish an effective date for their implementation. Other criteria that will be established require additional staff work are also addressed. However, implementation dates cannot be provided at this time. Commission review in the area of operator training and qualification is continuing and can be expected to result in additional criteria. Finally, requirements will be established through rule making proceedings.

Enclosure 1 details the revised criteria and the effective date for their implementation. Your attention is specifically directed to Sections A, B and C of Enclosure 1 since these call out new criteria that will be implemented in the near future; therefore, your plans regarding training and licensing activities should be promptly revised to conform to these criteria.

Enclosures 2 and 3 provide guidance for establishing training programs in heat transfer, fluid flow and thermodynamics; and mitigating core damage. Enclosure 4 details control manipulations for requalification programs.

Based on our understanding of the industry's reasons for establishing the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations and our review of the latest revisions to applicable ANSI standards, we believe you share our desire to significantly upgrade the requirements for operations personnel.

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Entire document previously  
entered into system under:

ANO 8004150319

No. of pages: 18

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