

# NORTHEAST UTILITIES



THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY  
THE HARTFORD CONNECTICUT LIGHT, HEAT AND  
POWER COMPANY  
THE NEW HAVEN CONNECTICUT LIGHT, HEAT AND  
POWER COMPANY  
THE WATERBURY CONNECTICUT LIGHT, HEAT AND  
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THE WINDHAM CONNECTICUT LIGHT, HEAT AND  
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February 20, 1980

Docket No. 50-336

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director  
Region I  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

- References: (1) B. H. Grier letter to W. G. Council dated March 12, 1979 forwarding I&E Bulletin No. 79-03.  
(2) W. G. Council letter to B. H. Grier dated April 16, 1979.  
(3) W. G. Council letter to B. H. Grier dated May 3, 1979.

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2  
Longitudinal Weld Defects in ASME SA-312 Stainless Steel Pipe

In Reference (1), Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) was requested to determine whether ASME SA-312, Type 304, or other welded (without filler metal) pipe manufactured by Youngstown Welding and Engineering Company is in use or planned for use in safety-related systems.

NNECO responded to this request in Reference (2) and, in Reference (3), provided the results of examinations performed to date on the subject piping. Included in Reference (3) was a commitment to examine the remaining subject pipe at Millstone Unit No. 2 prior to the start of Cycle 4 operation.

NNECO hereby informs the NRC Staff that the ultrasonic examinations of the subject piping required by I&E Bulletin No. 79-03 have been completed with the exception of four (4) welds in Spools 199, 200, 201, and 202. The results of the examinations indicate that there is no rejectable porosity or lack of fusion, on any SA-312 pipe in use at Millstone Unit No. 2, as described by Reference (1). A total of 543 feet of piping at Millstone Unit No. 2 was identified as questionable Youngstown SA-312 pipe. The welds which were not inspected comprise 43 feet of the subject seam-welded pipe, representing 7.9% of the total. These welds were not examined because their location in high radiation fields rendered them inaccessible.

In addition to the ultrasonic examinations, NNECO has conducted a review of the radiographs of all circumferential butt welds in the affected piping including Spools 199, 200, 201, and 202. Included in these radiographs are two to three inches of the longitudinal seam welds. These reviews did not indicate any imperfections of the type described in Reference (1).

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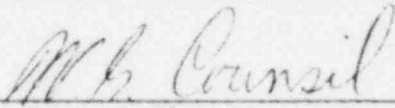
Based on the results of the ultrasonic examinations performed to date and the reviews of the radiographs of the circumferential butt welds of the subject piping, NNECO has determined that a high level of confidence exists assuring that the remaining unexamined piping will not contain imperfections of the type described in Reference (1).

In recognition of ALARA concerns and the high level of confidence assuring the integrity of the remaining piping, NNECO does not intend to examine the remaining subject piping. Therefore, this issue is resolved.

We trust this information satisfactorily disposes the Reference (1) concerns.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



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W. G. Council  
Vice President