

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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

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October 19, 1981

Docket No. 50-423
AEC-MP3-252
B10214

Mr. Ronald C. Haynes
Region 1
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Reference: (1) W. G. Council letter to B. H. Grier, dated April 29, 1981.

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Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies
in Design and Construction

As required by Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations Part 50, Paragraph 55(e), Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No.3 in the above-referenced letter. At that time, details on the method of repair and corrective actions were not specified. Therefore, this letter is being written as a follow-up to provide you with this information.

In Reference (1) we stated that poor quality rung welds in cable tray tee sections manufactured by T. J. Cope could result in a potential significant deficiency during a seismic event and as a result a Stop Work Order was issued to prevent installation of all remaining safety-related cable tray tees.



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Subsequently, a meeting was held with the vendor to discuss the problem. The meeting established that there were non-conformances to the vendor drawings and some non-generic deficiencies such as broken channels, holes in side rails, missed welds, and short channels.

Cable tray tees with non-generic deficiencies were rejected outright. The bulk of the disposition effort involved the resolution of non-conformances to vendor drawings. It was determined that vendor drawings did not reflect some current fabrication practices and did not contain sufficient information to facilitate proper weld inspection. Appropriate drawing change information was provided to Stone and Webster by the vendor. All cable tray tees were reinspected utilizing this advance drawing change information. A total 35 of the 102 tees have been finally rejected (for drawing non-conformance and non-generic deficiency reasons) and will be returned to the vendor for repair or replacement, or scrapped. No additional tees will be released for shipment to the site until completion of the preventive action. The sequence of formal preventive action requires that the vendor drawings be formally revised; and, then, that these revisions plus additional inspection requirements be incorporated in the Stone and Webster specification.

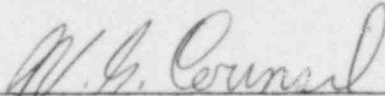
To correct drawing deficiencies and to preclude any possible recurrence of the reported potential significant deficiency, the following actions will be taken:

1. Stone and Webster will revise the specifications to require the shop inspector to visually inspect each weld prior to galvanization on 100 percent of the tees, rather than using a sampling technique. In this manner, an accurate assessment of the conformance of the welds to the specified criteria can be made. Specification revisions are expected to be complete by November 30, 1981.
2. The vendor will revise detail drawings to reflect present fabrication procedures and to incorporate welding dimensions against which the shop inspector can inspect. Revised drawings are to be submitted for approval and record. The shop inspector will verify that tees conform to the approved drawings. Drawing revisions are expected to be complete by November 30, 1981. A Stop Work Order on tees will remain in effect until approved drawings have been completed.

We trust this report provides you with sufficient detail describing our disposition of the subject potential significant deficiency in construction.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



W. G. Council
Senior Vice President

cc: See Following Page

cc: Mr. Harold D. Thornburg, Director
Division of Reactor Construction Inspection
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
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