

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



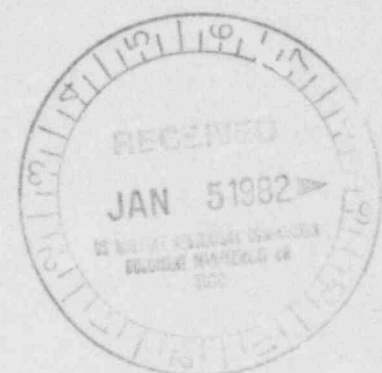
THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
THE HARTFORD ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY
MILLSBORO WATER POWER COMPANY
NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

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December 17, 1981

Docket No. 50-423
AEC-MP3-257
B10354



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

Reference: (1) W. G. Fee/W. G. Council letter to B. H. Grier, dated March 27, 1981.

Gentlemen:

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), on February 24, 1981 our Mr. B. L. Carlson reported to your Mr. R. A. Feil a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3. The potential significant deficiency involved the use of welding procedures in applications for which they had not been qualified. Reference (1) was the required thirty day report, and it indicated the potential significant deficiency was under a continuing investigation. That investigation has now been completed and Northeast Nuclear Energy Company has concluded that under the guidelines of 10CFR50.55(e) a potential significant deficiency does not exist.

During fabrication of the Millstone Unit No. 3 containment liner, Graver Energy Systems qualified certain weld procedures for particular materials (P-No. Group No.), but then misapplied these procedures to other materials (wrong Group No.). A sub-vendor (Wooley) was also involved with two of the procedures in question. The primary concern was whether or not the procedures which were used could reduce the materials toughness of the containment liner.

Through meetings, procedure reviews and specimen testing, it has been determined that the weld's meet the appropriate ASME III code and specification requirements. No corrective action is required for the subject welds and had this situation gone undetected the safety of operations at the plant would not have been adversely affected.

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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

W. G. Council
Senior Vice President

J. P. Cagnetta

By: J. P. Cagnetta
Vice President Nuclear and
Environmental Engineering

cc: Mr. James H. Sniezek, Director
Division of Resident and Regional
Reactor Inspection
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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