

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY
MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NOS. 1, 2 AND 3
DOCKET NOS. 50-245, 50-336 AND 50-423
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 to Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee) for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3, located at the licensee's site in New London County, Connecticut.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action:

At the present time, there is a full participation emergency preparedness (EP) exercise scheduled for December 1990 and a partial participation EP exercise scheduled for October 1991.

The licensee in a letter dated April 18, 1990 as supplemented by letter dated August 1, 1990, requested an exemption from Section IV.F.3 of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, "Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Production and Utilization Facilities," to allow the December 1990 full participation exercise to be postponed to October 1991. A partial participation exercise would be held in December 1990.

Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 requires that licensee's emergency plans be exercised at least once a year (10 CFR 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2) and that off-site emergency plans be exercised every other year (10 CFR 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.3).

Regarding the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3, full participation exercise scheduled during the month of December 1990, the off-site aspects of the exercise were to be evaluated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Due to other commitments in Region I, FEMA representatives will not be available during this time frame. Since FEMA cannot evaluate the exercise as planned, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) has requested a schedular exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.3 to allow the December 1990 full participation exercise to be postponed to October 1991. A partial participation exercise would be held in December 1990.

In a July 30, 1990 letter from FEMA to the NRC, granting an exemption from FEMA's schedular requirements in 44 CFR 350.9(c), FEMA states:

"The proposed schedule change results in no adverse public health and safety implications. Millstone and the State of Connecticut have conducted numerous successful exercises since 1982. The State of Connecticut also exercises its offsite emergency response plans with the Connecticut Yankee (Haddam Neck) Nuclear Power Plant on the same biennial cycle as Millstone. Thus, the State's emergency response organization is exercised twice as often as required. This organization was last exercised on May 19, 1990, at Haddam Neck with no deficiencies resulting. Granting NNECO's request for an exemption from the 1990 Millstone exercise until 1991 would allow for annual exercising of the State of Connecticut's plans and promote easier planning for the NRC, FEMA, NNECO, Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company, and the State of Connecticut. The next full participation exercise for Millstone would be conducted in October 1991."

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The exemption is needed to allow scheduling of emergency plan exercises in a resource-efficient manner.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption from the requirements of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50, Section IV.F.3 involves no changes in plant operation or any accident and thus

involves no changes in plant effluents or any changes in the use of resources. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that the proposed action would have no impact on the environment.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

It has been concluded that there is no measurable impact associated with the proposed exemption; any alternatives to the exemption would have either essentially the same or greater environmental impact.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources different from or beyond the scope of resources used during normal plant operation, which were assessed in the Final Environmental Statements relating to plant operation, dated June 1973 for Units 1 and 2, and December 1984 for Unit 3.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's request that supports the proposed exemption. The staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

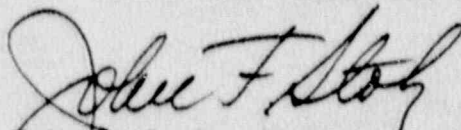
Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for exemption dated April 18, 1990 and the supplement dated August 1, 1990. A copy is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20555, and at the

local public document room located at the Learning Resources Center, Thames Valley State Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut 06360.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 24th day of October 1990.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



John F. Stolz, Director
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
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