

Docket file



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 2, 1994

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

Mr. John F. Opeka
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
Post Office Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Dear Mr. Opeka:

SUBJECT: GENERIC LETTER 89-10, SUPPLEMENT 5, "INACCURACY OF MOTOR-OPERATED VALVE DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT" (TAC NOS. M87953, M87968, M87969, M87970)

On June 28, 1993, the NRC staff issued Supplement 5, "Inaccuracy of Motor-Operated Valve Diagnostic Equipment," to Generic Letter (GL) 89-10, "Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valve Testing and Surveillance," requesting nuclear power plant licensees and construction permit holders (1) to re-examine their motor-operated valve (MOV) programs and to identify measures taken to account for uncertainties in properly setting valve operating thrust to ensure operability, and (2) to evaluate the schedule necessary to consider the new information on MOV diagnostic equipment inaccuracy and to take appropriate action in response to that information. Within 90 days of receipt of Supplement 5 to GL 89-10, licensees were required (1) to notify the NRC staff of the diagnostic equipment used to confirm the proper size, or to establish settings, for safety-related MOVs, and (2) to report whether they had taken actions or planned to take actions (including schedule) to address the new information on the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment.

The staff has reviewed the responses, and has found that, for the most part, licensees and permit holders have been actively addressing the uncertainties regarding the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment. The increased inaccuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment can raise questions regarding (1) the adequacy of torque switch settings to provide sufficient thrust while not exceeding thrust or torque structural limits, and (2) the capability of actuator motors at current settings. In their responses, licensees and permit holders indicated that many MOVs had the potential for underthrusting or overthrusting as a result of the higher than expected inaccuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment. Consequently, some licensees reported that MOVs have been retested, adjusted, or modified to resolve the concerns regarding the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment.

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) responded to Supplement 5 by letter dated October 14, 1993, and stated that it uses MOV diagnostic equipment manufactured by Liberty Technologies (VOTES equipment). NNECO stated that it evaluated all MOVs setup using VOTES before the new VOTES 2.31 software was

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Mr. John F. Opeka

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received. NNECO stated that five internal reportability evaluations were initiated to address overthrust. NNECO stated certain MOVs in Millstone 1 and 2 remain to be retested. NNECO stated that its personnel had been trained in the use of the new VOTES software. NNECO stated that all VOTES issues would be resolved by July 1, 1994.

During a future inspection, the NRC staff will discuss NNECO's resolution of the MOV diagnostic equipment accuracy issue. Particularly, the staff will discuss the results of NNECO's re-evaluation of MOVs setup with the old VOTES software. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please call the appropriate Project Manager.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

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

cc: See next page

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Mr. John F. Opeka

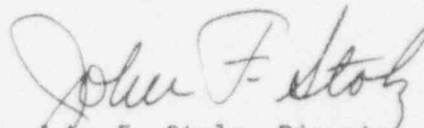
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Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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