

DCS

FEB 16 1994

Docket No. 50-423

Mr. John F. Opeka  
Executive Vice President - Nuclear  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company  
P. O. Box 270  
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Dear Mr. Opeka:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-423/93-81

This refers to the announced electrical distribution system functional inspection conducted by Mr. A. Della Greca of this office on October 18 through November 5, 1993. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Millstone, Unit 3, nuclear facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with Mr. E. De Barba and other members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

The primary objective of the inspection was to determine whether the electrical distribution system (EDS) as designed, installed, and configured at the Millstone Unit 3 station would be capable of performing its intended safety functions. This was accomplished through a review of the scope and results of your self-conducted safety functional inspection (SFI) of the electrical distribution system and an independent audit of selected topics in the design, maintenance and test areas. In addition, an assessment of the engineering support staff relative to the electrical distribution system was performed.

The inspection was directed toward areas important to public health and safety, as discussed in the enclosed inspection report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of design calculations, relevant procedures and representative records, installed equipment, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspectors. The inspection team concluded that the electrical distribution system at the Millstone Unit 3 station was capable of performing its intended safety functions, that the engineering staff provided adequate technical support for the safe operation of the plant, and that your self-assessment activities of the EDS provided good insight in the areas requiring your added attention. The strengths and weaknesses identified by the team are detailed in the enclosed inspection report.

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Mr. John F. Opeka

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Based on the results of this inspection, three of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements. Two of these activities involved inadequate corrective actions in the surveillance testing area, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. The other violation, pertaining to inadequate testing of the station batteries, was not cited because the criteria of 10 CFR 2, Appendix C, Section VII.B.(2) of the Enforcement Policy were satisfied. The identified issues and the team's observations in the design area indicate the need for a more questioning attitude regarding design assumptions and original design bases. The deficiencies in the surveillance test area are of concern because of their impact on the availability and operability of safety-related electrical equipment. For instance, the inadequate resolution of recurrent problems affecting the availability of battery chargers apparently resulted in the partial discharge of two station batteries at the same time; one of these batteries barely met the capacity requirements identified in the Technical Specifications during a subsequent test.

You are required to respond to this letter and you should follow the instructions of the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

Also, we request that you provide us, in writing, within 60 days after receipt of this letter, a schedule for the resolution of unresolved issues identified in this report and any actions taken or planned, to enhance the functionality of the EDS.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-511.

Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

James T. Wiggins, Acting Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

1. NRC Notice of Violation, Appendix A
2. NRC Inspection Report No. 50-423/93-81

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cc w/encl:

S. E. Scace, Vice President, Nuclear Operations Services  
D. B. Miller, Senior Vice President, Millstone Station  
J. P. Stetz, Vice President, Haddam Neck Plant  
F. R. Dacimo, Nuclear Unit Director  
R. M. Kacich, Director, Nuclear Planning, Licensing and Budgeting  
J. Solymossy, Director, Nuclear Quality and Assessment Services  
Gerald Garfield, Esquire  
Nicholas Reynolds, Esquire  
K. Abraham, PAO (2) All Inspection Reports  
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Local Public Document Room (LPDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector  
State of Connecticut SLO

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

bcc w/encl (VIA E-MAIL):

V. McCree, OEDO  
V. Rooney, PM, NRR  
J. Stolz, NRR/PD I-4  
M. Shannon, NRR/ILPB

RI:DRS  
Della Greca  
12/20/93

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Ruland  
2/4/94

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Durr  
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Wiggins  
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