

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

Region I

Report No. 50-245/78-32
50-336/78-28
Docket No. 50-245
50-336
License No. DPR-21 Priority IV Category C
DPR-65 --
Licensee: Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06101

Facility Name: Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2

Investigation at: Waterford, Connecticut

Investigation conducted: August 14-15, 1978

Investigators: Raymond H. Smith
Raymond H. Smith, Investigation Specialist

10/18/78
date signed

date signed

date signed

date signed

Approved by:

James W. Devlin
James W. Devlin, Chief, Security and
Investigation Section, Safeguards Branch

10/18/78
date signed

Investigation Summary:

Investigation on August 14-15, 1978 (Combined Report No. 50-245/78-32 and 50-336/78-28)
Areas Investigated: Announced investigation by one regional based investigator of licensee's implementation of 10 CFR 73.55, which included: Security Plan; Security Organization; Access Controls; and, Response Procedures relating to the fire involving a truck carrying cylinders of hydrogen gas which occurred on August 11, 1978. The investigation involved 8 investigator-hours on site by one NRC regional based investigator.
Results: No information was found to indicate that the leak of hydrogen gas from the cylinders and ensuring burning of the hydrogen was caused by means other than a postulate mechanical failure of the valving system. No items of noncompliance were identified.

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A. Introduction

The purpose of this investigation was to review the circumstances surrounding a hydrogen truck fire which occurred on August 11, 1978. This event was reported by the licensee to the NRC (Region I) by telephone on August 11, 1978, at about 1:25 p.m.

B. Event

On August 11, 1978, a truck containing 10 hydrogen cylinders was parked outside of a gate in the protected area fence of Millstone Units 1 and 2. During the time that the driver was out of the truck to obtain an administrative clearance for delivery, the truck caught fire.

C. Summary of Findings

The NRC investigation found no information to indicate that the fire was caused by industrial sabotage, and no items of noncompliance were identified.

D. Details1. Persons ContactedPrincipal Licensee Employees

J. Bangasser, Security Coordinator
 *M. Griffin, Security Supervisor
 *E. Mrocza, Station Services Superintendent
 *J. Opeka, Station Superintendent

* denotes those present at the Management Meeting.

Others

A. Lasseigen, National Transportation Safety Board, U. S. Department of Transportation
 J. Leary, Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety, U. S. Department of Transportation
 D. Peabody, Fire Marshall, Town of Waterford, Connecticut
 J. Bradford, Operations Manager, New England Oxygen Company

2. Scope of Investigation

This investigation was limited to an examination of the licensee's implementation of 10 CFR 73, which included: Security Plan; Security Organization; Access Controls; and, Response Procedures relating to the truck fire.

3. Truck Fire

On August 11, 1978, a delivery of hydrogen gas was being made by the New England Oxygen Company, Westborough, Massachusetts. At approximately 1:00 p.m., the truck containing 10 cylinder tanks of hydrogen gas was parked on the owner (licensee) controlled property outside of a gate in the protected area fence at the Millstone Units 1 and 2 site. The driver of the truck had exited the vehicle and was in the security access point building to obtain an administrative clearance to enter the protected area. During this period of time, the fire started in the truck.

The Waterford Fire Department responded in approximately five minutes. A traffic control checkpoint was established on the entrance road to the site. At approximately 4:00 p.m., the Fire Department permitted authorized vehicles and individuals to enter the area where the truck was parked. This allowed the oncoming shift crews to enter the protected area. The fire was extinguished at about 4:15 p.m.

There were no personal injuries as a result of the fire and also no adverse affects on the safe operation of Millstone Unit 1 and 2.

Prior to the truck being removed from the site, an inspection was conducted by the licensee's security personnel and the Waterford Fire Marshall. The result of their inspection showed no evidence or indication of industrial sabotage. This result was also confirmed by an inspection of the truck conducted by the Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety, U. S. Department of Transportation.

4. Implementation of Security Measures

The investigator examined records and contacted involved individuals regarding the implementation of security measures. There were no items of noncompliance identified.

5. Management Meeting

The investigator met with licensee representatives (denoted in paragraph 1) at the conclusion of the investigation on August 15, 1978. The investigator summarized the scope and findings of the investigation.