

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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

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October 8, 1982

AEC-MP3-291
B10577

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

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3,
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies
in Design and Construction Metal Shavings
in a Containment Recirculation Pump Motor (SD-19)

As required by Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations Part 50, Paragraph 55(e), Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 in a March 31, 1982 telephone conversation between our Mr. B. L. Carlson and your Mr. L. E. Briggs.

The potential significant deficiency involved the discovery of metal chips in a Containment Recirculation Pump Motor. As a result, the motor was returned to the Westinghouse Large Motor Division. Upon receipt and disassembly, a sprinkling of small metal chips was found on the horizontal surfaces of the frame ribs and on the lower air baffle. Apparently when the side covers were installed on the motor, the bolt holes in the covers did not line up with the corresponding tapped holes in the frame. Therefore, shop personnel had to drill and retap the holes to make them match the covers. This is normal practice. However, in this case shop personnel did an inadequate job of cleaning out the metal chips produced by the drilling and tapping operation. Despite this, inspection revealed that the chips were located in areas where they would not be detrimental to motor operation. Even if ventilating air flow had sufficient velocity to disturb the metal chips, the direction of ventilating air flow is out from the stator core to the exhaust openings in the covers which would tend to carry them out of the motor. We have therefore concluded that the above notified potential significant deficiency is in fact not a reportable significant deficiency because the metal chips' presence would have had no affect during normal operation or emergency shutdown. As a matter of prudence, though, we are inspecting and thoroughly cleaning any metal chips present in the remaining Containment Recirculation Pump motors in addition to the one already sent back to the Westinghouse Large Motor Division for inspection. The cleaning and inspections to take place in the field will be overseen by Field QC and a Westinghouse representative.

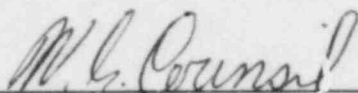
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Based on a September 29, 1982 telephone conversation between our Mr. J. M. Powers and your Mr. T. Elsasser this final disposition is being forwarded on or before October 13, 1982.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. G. Council", is written over a horizontal line.

W. G. Council
Senior Vice President

cc: E. J. Brunner