

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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

General Offices • Selden Street, Berlin, Connecticut

P.O. BOX 270
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06141-0270
(203) 666-6911

March 31, 1983
AEC-MP3-306
B10741

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:
Service Water Pump Lubricating Water Strainer Clogging (SD-33)

In a February 23, 1983 telephone conversation between your Mr. L. Briggs and our Mr. A. K. Gulesserian, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 as required by Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations Part 50, Paragraph 55(e).

The potential significant deficiency involved clogging of the service water pump lubricating water strainers. Presently, the strainer mesh size is such that "stapling" occurs in the mesh. This results in inadequate cleaning of the strainer during the backwash (cleaning) cycle. The strainer could clog and impede the flow of water to the pump bearings. This would likely cause damage or failure of the pump bearings due to overheating, and therefore has been determined to be reportable as a significant deficiency.

To correct this problem, NNECO is evaluating a recommendation to install new strainers of increased mesh size, approximately 150 mesh (100 micron particle size) and replace the existing shaft sleeves with a harder sleeve material.

We will provide you with a report of our disposition of this significant deficiency within 90 days.

8304280209 830331
PDR ADOCK 05000423
S PDR

IE27

Based on the March 28, 1983 telephone conversation between our Mr. J. Majewski and your Mr. T. Elsasser, we are submitting this report on or before March 31, 1983.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

W. G. Council
W. G. Council
Senior Vice President

C. Frederick Sears
By: C. F. Sears
Vice President Nuclear and
Environmental Engineering