

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-91-56

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

Facility:  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Co.  
Millstone Unit 3  
Waterford, CT  
Docket No. 50-423

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
 Notification of Unusual Event  
 Alert  
 Site Area Emergency  
 General Emergency  
 Not Applicable

Subject: SERVICE WATER PROBLEM UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN

As a result of the IPAT team and Northeast Nuclear Energy Co.(NNECO) inquiring into the condition of the service water (SW) system at the Millstone station, an extend flow test of unit three's SW for the 'B' emergency diesel generator (EDG) was performed. On July 25, 1991, after performance of the flow test, 'B' EDG was declared inoperable due to less than minimum required service water flow to the emergency generator diesel engine coolers. At the time of the event, the unit was operating at 100% power. During the test, the service water flow decreased from approximately 2,000 gpm to 300 gpm in a five hour time period. The 'A' EDG was subsequently verified operable per technical specifications. NNECO attributed the loss of flow to the cooler to be due to mussel clogging of the heat exchanger.

On July 25, 1991 at 11:40 a.m., after making a determination that the 'B' service water system could not be restored to service within the time allowed by technical specifications, NNECO declared an unusual event and commenced a reactor shutdown of Millstone Unit 3. Millstone 3 will remain in a cold shutdown for approximately one week until flushing of the service water system is completed and other actions are performed to restore the service water system to operability.

The IPAT team is on site and following the licensee's actions. Resident Inspectors have been informed.

The State of Connecticut has been notified.

The licensee has issued a press release.

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Region I Form 83  
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