

DES
DEC 12 1991

Docket No. 50-336

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

Dear Mr. Opeka:

Subject: NRC Region I Augmented Inspection Team Report (50-336/91-81)

This refers to the Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) led by Mr. James Trapp of this office on November 7-18, 1991, at Millstone Unit 2, in Waterford, Connecticut. This inspection, of the November 6, 1991 failure of a moisture separator reheater drain line elbow focused on ascertaining the relevant facts, probable cause(s), and proposed corrective actions. At the conclusion of the inspection, an exit meeting was held with Mr. E. DeBarba and other members of your staff to discuss the preliminary inspection findings.

The AIT concluded that the moisture separator reheater drain lines were not included in the Millstone Unit 2 erosion/corrosion program. The omission was caused by the program selection criteria being based on engineering judgement and not a systematic review of components vulnerable to erosion/corrosion. The absence of a systematic approach for selection of components to include in the erosion/corrosion program was previously identified as a weakness by the AIT which reviewed the December 31, 1990, Millstone Unit 3 pipe failures. In response to this finding, Northeast Utilities committed to provide a systematic selection criteria for all four nuclear units by December 31, 1991. This corrective action had not been completed at the time of the Millstone Unit 2 pipe failure. Based on these findings, Mr. DeBarba stated at the exit meeting that Northeast Utilities will implement the actions described in section 4.2 of the enclosed NRC inspection report prior to starting up each of the four Northeast Utilities nuclear units.

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Your reply to this letter confirming your corrective actions in response to this event is requested. Please send the reply to the Region I Office. Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Marvin W. Hodges

Marvin W. Hodges, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures: NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-336/91-81

cc w/encl:

W. D. Romberg, Vice President, Nuclear Operations
D. O. Nordquist, Director of Quality Services
R. M. Kacich, Manager, Nuclear Licensing
S. E. Scace, Nuclear Station Director, Millstone
J. S. Keenan, Nuclear Unit Director, Millstone Unit 2
Gerald Garfield, Esquire
Nicholas Reynolds, Esquire
K. Abraham, PAO (2) All Inspection Reports
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of Connecticut

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bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encl)

T. Martin, PA

J. Taylor, EDO

E. Rossi, NRR

J. Richardson, NRR

S. Koscielny, NRR

E. Wenzinger, DRP

E. Kelly, DRP

W. Raymond, SRI, Millstone

A. Asars, SRI, Haddam Neck

R. Lobel, EDO

G. Vissing, PM, NRR

P. Boehnert, Chairman, ACRS

K. Raglin, Director, TCC

R. Fraley, ACRS

R. Arrighi, DRP

RI:DRS

Trapp

gnt

12/2/91

RI:DRS

Eapen

12/10/91

RI:DRS

Durr

12/11/91

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Hodges

MWH
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