

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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

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September 13, 1991

Docket No. 50-336
A09701

RE: Employee Concerns

Mr. Charles W. Hehl, Director
Division of Reactor Projects
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Hehl:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2
RI-91-A-0166

We have completed our review of the identified issue concerning activities at Millstone Station. As requested in your transmittal letter, our response does not contain any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information. The material contained in this response may be released to the public and placed in the NRC Public Document Room at your discretion. The Staff's transmittal letter and our response have received controlled and limited distribution on a "need to know" basis during the preparation of this response. Additional time in which to respond to this issue was granted by the Region I Staff in telephone conversations on August 12 and August 30, 1991.

ISSUE:

A level switch (LS-9242) within the control circuit for the "B" Recovered Boric Acid Tank pump MP 92, was isolated with no plant documentation of it being isolated.

Request:

Please discuss the validity of the above assertion. If deficiencies are found in work control or valve alignments, please notify us of the corrective actions you have taken to prevent recurrence. Please provide us with an assessment of the significance with regard to safety of any identified deficiencies.

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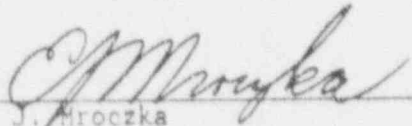
Response:

It is not possible to establish whether or not this assertion is valid. Millstone Unit No. 2 Operations Department performs a weekly blowdown of miscellaneous tank level sensing lines in accordance with SP2654 - Periodic Checks. The "B" Recovered Boric Acid Storage Tank (RBAST) is included in this weekly surveillance. Therefore, the maximum period of time this switch could have been isolated is one week. It is possible that it could have been inadvertently left isolated during a weekly blowdown. There is no safety significance associated with such an isolation as RBAST tanks do not perform any safety related function.

After our review and evaluation of this issue, we find that this issue did not present any indication of a compromise of nuclear safety. We were not aware of this issue prior to the receipt of the Staff's letter. We appreciate the opportunity to respond and explain the basis of our actions. Please contact my staff if there are further questions on any of these matters.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



E. J. Mroczka
Senior Vice President

cc: W. J. Raymond, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3
E. C. Wenzinger, Chief, Projects Branch No. 4, Division of Reactor Projects
E. M. Kelly, Chief, Reactor Projects Section 4A
J. T. Shedlosky, NRC, Millstone Nuclear Power Station