

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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

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April 13, 1984

Docket No. 50-423
F0516A

Dr. Thomas E. Murley
Regional Administrator
Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Dr. Murley:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies in Design and Construction:
Potential Hardware Interference with ITT Grinnell Sway Struts (SD-54)

In a March 16, 1984 telephone conversation between your Mr. T. Rebelowski and our Mr. R. E. Lefebvre, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 as required by 10CFR50.55(e). The potential significant deficiency involves interference with sway strut hardware manufactured by ITT Grinnell Corporation. The five degree cone of action required between the strut and rear bracket was not available due to an interference which only allowed a swing of two degrees from normal.

A field inspection indicated that the interference was due to a bent ear of the rear bracket in conjunction with a bent end of the sway strut rather than an oversize weld as originally indicated. NNECO has determined that this situation is attributed to construction damage rather than manufacturing or design deficiencies. Therefore, the interference is considered to be an isolated occurrence and the hardware will be replaced through the normal nonconformance and disposition procedure.

An evaluation of the pipe support indicates that the piping movements associated with the support are such that no cone of action is required for support operability. Based on this fact, NNECO concludes that if the situation had gone undetected, the safety function of the Category I system associated with the pipe support would not have been compromised. Therefore, this topic is not considered to be a significant deficiency with respect to 10CFR50.55(e).

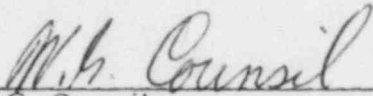
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We consider this to be our final report closing out all items regarding SD-54. We trust that the above information satisfactorily responds to your concerns.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



W. G. Council
Senior Vice President

cc: Mr. R. C. DeYoung, Director
Division of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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