

Docket
File



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555
April 6, 1992

Docket No. 50-336

Mr. John F. Opeka
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
Post Office Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Dear Mr. Opeka:

SUBJECT: INSTRUMENTATION TO FOLLOW THE COURSE OF AN ACCIDENT -
REGULATORY GUIDE 1.97, MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2
(TAC NO. M75776)

Section 6.2 of Generic Letter 82-33 requested licensees to provide a report on their implementation of Regulatory Guide 1.97 (Revision 2), including methods for complying with the Commission's regulations and supporting technical justification for any proposed alternatives or deviations. A large number of exception requests were received from PWR licensees asking that the environmental qualification requirement for accumulator level and pressure monitoring instrumentation be relaxed from Category 2 to Category 3, which would allow commercial grade instruments to be used. Prior to 1987 these requests were denied by the staff. Since then, these exception requests have been considered as open items until a generic resolution could be found.

The staff has now reviewed the bases for these exceptions and has concluded that no operator action is based on this post-accident instrumentation and that it does not perform a safety function. In addition, successful performance of core cooling systems can be inferred from other environmentally qualified instrumentation. Since this instrumentation does not perform any post-accident safety function, its qualification requirements can be reduced to Category 3. A copy of the Safety Evaluation is enclosed.

You have not finalized your commitment regarding installation of instrumentation to monitor accumulator level and pressure. You may now utilize Category 3 instrumentation for accumulator level and pressure. Please notify me of the actions you plan to take and the schedule for implementation.

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Mr. John F. Opeka

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If you have any questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at (301) 504-1441.

Sincerely,

/s/

Guy S. Vissing, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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Mr. John F. Opeka
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

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