

April 7, 1992

Docket  
File

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: AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF A RUBBER EXPANSION JOINT AS AN  
ALTERNATIVE TO METAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)  
(TAC NO. M82346)

This letter is in response to your request for relief from ASME Code requirements submitted by letter dated December 18, 1991. The enclosed Safety Evaluation addresses the temporary use of a rubber, rather than metal, expansion joint in the repair of an 8-inch service water system expansion joint.

Based on the review summarized in the enclosed safety evaluation, the staff concludes that there is reasonable assurance that the integrity of the rubber expansion joint in the service water piping to the "B" Diesel Generator jacket water cooler will be maintained until replacement can be made. Replacement is required to be accomplished in the lesser time of (1) the manufacturer's minimum design life of 5 years, or (2) the time remaining in the current 10-year inservice inspection interval. The staff finds that the use of the rubber bellows would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Therefore, based on the above, the proposed use of a rubber expansion bellows is acceptable as an alternative to the use of metal, for the above-mentioned period, and is authorized under 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3).

Sincerely,

/s/

John F. Stolz, Director  
Project Directorate I-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:  
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