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# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

January 2, 1996

SAM GEUDEN  
20 DISTRICT  
CONNECTICUT

COMMITTEE ON  
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WATER AND POWER RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON  
HOUSE OPERATIONS

The Honorable Shirley Ann Jackson  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Chairman Jackson:

I am writing concerning the recently released Inspector General (IG) report addressing allegations raised by Mr. George Galatis about practices at Northeast Utilities' Millstone I station. At the outset, I want to commend you for your personal attention to this matter.

As you know, the IG concluded Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) resident inspectors were unfamiliar with certain sections of the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) governing appropriate refueling practices at Millstone I. Specifically, the report concluded resident inspectors did not realize the practice of off-loading the full core "was inconsistent with the normal discharge scenario outlined in the Final Safety Analysis Report." (page 25) In addition, the IG found NRC headquarter staff missed multiple opportunities to detect this error as well as to address certain issues associated with the capacity of the spent fuel pool to compensate for additional heat loads brought about by the full core off-load.

With these conclusions in mind, I urge you to take steps necessary to ensure all resident inspectors are fully conversant with the relevant portions of all documents governing plant operations. While I recognize these materials can be voluminous, this case demonstrates inspectors are unfamiliar with some fundamentally important information. I believe such action is especially critical in light of the Inspector General's conclusion that "resident inspectors did not receive guidance or briefings specific to that facility." (page 12)

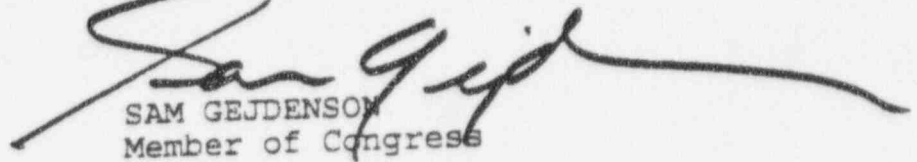
I recognize your November 30, 1995 memo to James Taylor and Karen Cyr requests staff review this issue generally. However, I urge you to establish specific requirements which will ensure resident inspectors and regional and headquarters staff have demonstrable knowledge of the most relevant portions of a plant's FSAR and other important supporting documentation. I believe it is especially important for these personnel to be familiar with any

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material relating to refueling. The IG report indicates inspectors were unfamiliar with Millstone procedures governing this issue and often assumed full core off-loads were authorized based on what they had observed at other plants. I believe you would agree it is unacceptable for oversight personnel to justify their actions at one plant based on what might have been the practice at another.

I appreciate your careful consideration of this suggestion. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



SAM GEJDENSON  
Member of Congress

SG/sk