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Jersey Central Power & Light Co.
Attention: Mr. T. J. McCluskey
Station Superintendent
Oyster Creek Nuclear Station
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Docket No. 50-219

Gentlemen:

A RO Inquiry Report dated January 11, 1973 regarding the Millstone Point Company's Millstone Point 1 plant was recently placed in the Public Document Room. The subject matter discussed in that report is felt to have possible applicability to your plant and, accordingly, I have enclosed a copy for your information.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Carlson, Chief
Facility Operations Branch

Enclosure:
RO Inquiry Report No. 50-245/73-01Q

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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
REGION 1
970 BROAD STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

RO Inquiry Report No. 50-245/73-01Q

Licensee: Millstone Point Company
P. O. Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06101

License No.: DPR-21

Facility: Millstone Point 1
Waterford, Connecticut

Title: Equipment Failure - Control Rod
Drive Accumulators

Prepared by: D. L. Capton
D. L. Capton, Senior Reactor Inspector

1/11/73
Date

A. Date and Manner AEC was Informed:

On January 8, 1973 the inspector telephoned the site regarding other matters and the licensee's representative informed the inspector about this condition. An RO inspector reached the site on the same day and provided additional information. A RO metallurgist was brought in and inspected this matter on January 9, 1973, along with the initial RO inspector.

B. Description of Particular Event or Circumstance:

Control rod drive system hydraulic accumulators were previously found to be leaking water past the piston into the nitrogen section of the accumulator. An inspection of the accumulators was conducted.

Upon disassembly of the leaking accumulators, it was found that some plating on the inside diameter surfaces of the accumulator cylinder was coming off. In addition, it was found that blister type bulges had formed principally in the area of the cylinder wall (approximately 7 to 8 inches) from the accumulator bottom at which location the piston is normally positioned during normal operation of the control rod drives.

The accumulator cylinder was stated to be SA106 carbon steel plated with nickel and chrome on top. The piston was stated to be 6061 anodized aluminum having three "O" ring "Slide A Seals".

The largest surface defect was stated to cover an area of 8" x 6". The largest flaking off of the chrome plating was described as being similar in size to a half dollar. Most of the blisters or pits were characterized as being the size of a pin head or smaller and covering less than a total of 1/2 of 1% of the cylinder area and appeared primarily in the vicinity of the piston. The flaking of the chrome plating was stated by the GE representative as having been previously observed at other installations, however, the blistering had not been previously identified by GE.

C. Action by Licensee:

All accumulators (145) have been removed, disassembled and inspected.

GE has recommended replacement of all accumulators having gross plating failures.

Two accumulators were shipped to GE for destructive metallography studies and evaluations.

A written report will be submitted to the Directorate of Licensing by January 26, 1973.