NORTHEAST UTILITIES

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

General Offices • Selden Street, Berlin, Connecticut

P.O. BOX 270
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06141-0270
(203) 665-5000

September 6, 1985

Docket No. 50-423
F0831A

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

Dear Dr. Murley:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Reporting of Potential Significant Deficiencies
in Accordance with 10CFR50.55(e):
Differential Relays GE Type PVD21 (SD-86)

In an August 8, 1985 telephone conversation between your Mr. T. Rebelowski and our Mr. R. J. Young, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) reported a potential significant deficiency in the construction of Millstone Unit No. 3 in accordance with 10CFR50.55(e). The potential significant deficiency involves the General Electric Type PVD21 Differential Relays located in the Class IE 4160 volt switchgear. Mechanical impacts to the switchgear doors containing the PVD21 relays have caused tripping of the switchgear circuit breakers.

NNECO has met with General Electric to discuss this issue. The apparent sensitivity to shock of the PVD21 relays raises concern that a potential common mode failure of both 4160 volt busses would occur at a seismic loading not as yet determined. Analysis alone is not able to accurately determine this seismic loading. Therefore, a retest of the PVD21 relays will be performed.

Until the retest is performed, a final report cannot be provided. We will provide an update on this matter by October 18, 1985.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

J. F. Opeka
Senior Vice President

cc: Mr. J. M. Taylor, Director
Division of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

8509250317 850906
PDR ADOCK 05000423
S PDR

1/0 IE07