**NORTHEAST UTILITIES**

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

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December 20, 1985

Docket No. 50-245
B11937

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: Mr. Christopher I. Grimes, Project Director
Integrated Safety Assessment Project Directorate
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1
Main Turbine Inspection Program

On December 13, 1985, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) provided the NRC Staff with an informational letter(1) concerning the results of the 1985 refueling outage main turbine inspection. Following receipt of this letter, the NRC Staff posed two questions concerning the inspection results and analysis.

The purpose of this letter is to document the discussions between members of the NRC Staff, NNECO, and Northeast Utilities Service Company (NUSCO) and to provide a written response to the two questions.

The first question concerned the depth of an indication which was described as "1.4 inches in length". As Figure 1 (attached) shows, the orientation and location of the indication on the wheel relative to the keyway indicates that the reported length of 1.4 inches should be considered as a "radial length". That is, the reported length of the indication could be considered to be the depth of the indication.

The final question posed by the NRC Staff dealt with the determination of the inspection interval for the 'B' low pressure turbine. The NRC Staff was concerned as to whether the 21-month inspection interval was established via probabilistic or deterministic methods. General Electric has indicated that the calculations for the inspection interval were performed in accordance with NRC-approved procedures. A deterministic calculation was performed resulting in an inspection interval of 2.5 years; whereas, an inspection interval of 2.1 years resulted from the probabilistic method. As such, the initial recommendation from General Electric of 21 months was more conservative than the results of either calculation.



(1) J. F. Opeka letter to C. I. Grimes, dated December 13, 1985, "Main Turbine Inspection Program".

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Add: AD - D. CRUTCHFIELD (ltr only)
EB (W. JOHNSTON)
PSB (THOMAS)
ELCSB (PARR)
FOB (W. REGAN)

We have very recently been informed by General Electric that they now conservatively recommend reinspection of the low pressure turbine after an additional 1.2 years of operation. We intend to evaluate this recommendation to determine whether continued operation between 1.2 years and our next refueling outage (currently scheduled to commence in August, 1987) can be justified.

We trust that this information adequately addresses the NRC Staff's concerns and we remain available to answer any further questions which might arise.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

J. F. Opeka
Senior Vice President

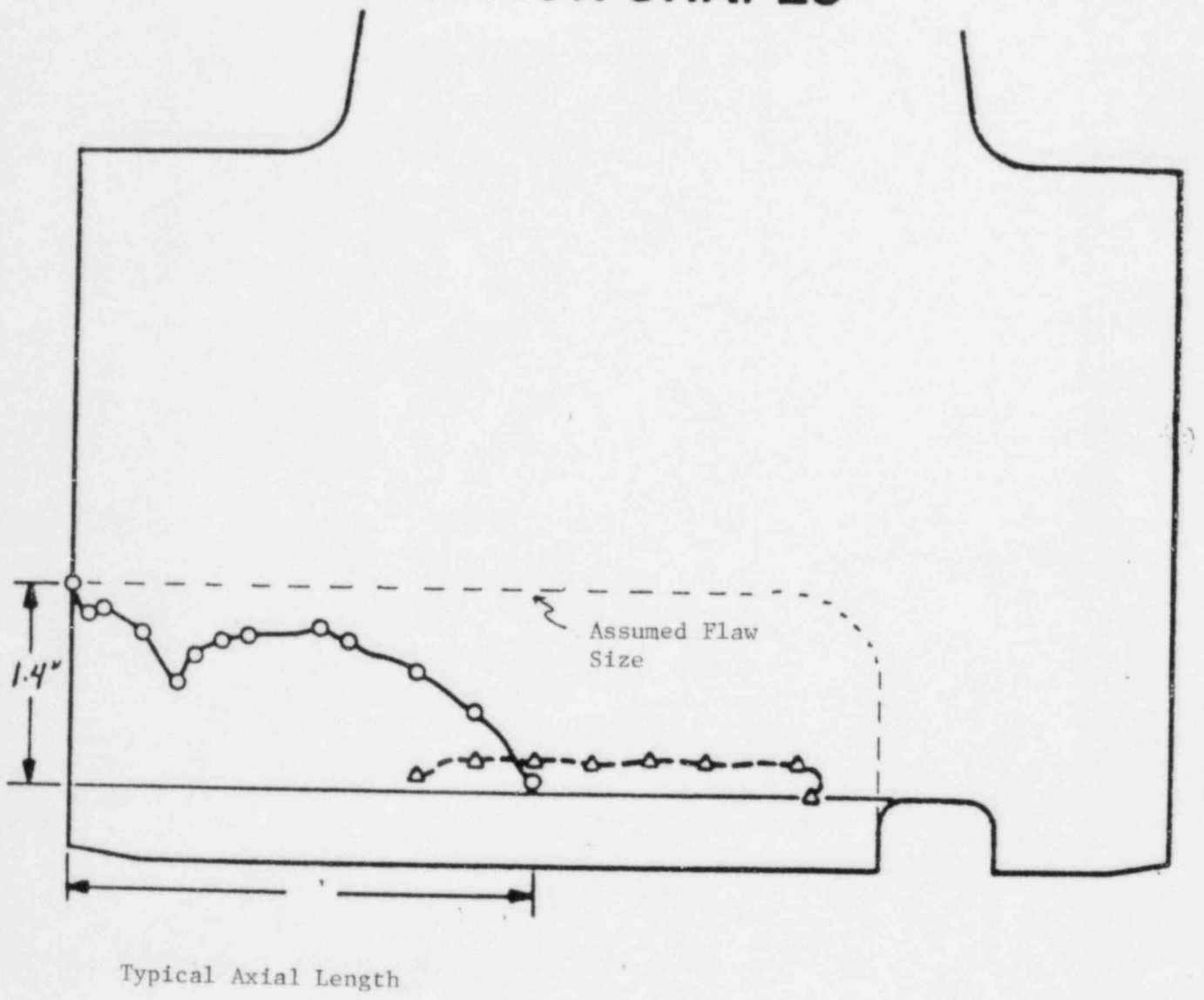


Figure 1

Representative Cross-Section View of "B" Low Pressure Turbine Indication