



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MAY 09 1988

Docket No. 50-423

Mr. Edward J. Mrocza
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Engineering and Operations
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
Post Office Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Dear Mr. Mrocza:

SUBJECT: RESCISSION OF TEMPORARY WAIVER OF COMPLIANCE FROM TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATION 3.6.3, "CONTAINMENT ISOLATION VALVES"
(TAC NO. 67867)

Re: Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3

By letter dated April 14, 1988 you requested a temporary waiver of compliance to allow the restart of Millstone Unit No. 3 while an emergency Technical Specification (TS) amendment is being processed by the NRC. The amendment to TS Section 3.6.3, "Containment Isolation Valves", to Facility Operating License No. NPF-49 would remove unnecessary restrictions on mode changes and would be consistent with guidance provided by the staff in Generic Letter 87-09, dated June 1987.

The waiver was requested because of the following sequence of events:

On March 1, 1988, three containment isolation valves were found to be inoperable during surveillance testing and the action statements required in TS 3.6.3, "Containment Isolation Valves", were satisfied which allow the plant to continue operation for an unlimited period of time. The three valves are the pressurizer relief tank gas sample line isolation valve 3SSR*CV8026, pressurizer vapor space sample line isolation valve 3SSR*CTV20, and pressurizer liquid sample line isolation valve 3SSR*CTV22.

On April 13, 1988, Millstone Unit No. 3 tripped placing the plant in the hot shutdown condition and the cause of the plant trip, low condenser vacuum due to intake structure travelling screen blockage, was being corrected. TS Section 3.0.4 does not permit entry into an operational mode unless the conditions for the limiting condition for operation are met without reliance on provisions contained in the action statements. This requirement will not allow the restart of Millstone Unit No. 3 with the three isolation valves being inoperable, while continued operation is allowed because the action statements in TS Section 3.6.3 were met.

Our letter dated April 15, 1988 granted a temporary waiver of compliance from the cited TS requirements and was to be in effect until we complete the processing of an emergency license amendment.

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Mr. E. J. Mroczka
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Unit No. 3

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50-427

Mr. Edward J. Mroczka

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By letter dated April 29, 1988, you informed the staff that the plant had been taken to Cold Shutdown to correct unidentified leakage problems and that during the period the reactor was shutdown the three containment isolation valves identified above were repaired and declared operable. The condition of these valves no longer inhibits the plant's ascension to the operation mode, therefore, the temporary waiver is no longer required and the emergency circumstances no longer exist.

This letter rescinds the temporary waiver of compliance with the cited TS requirements. We will process your proposed TS amendment to Section 3.6.3 using our normal procedures.

Sincerely,

original signed by

Pruce A. Boger, Assistant Director
for Region I Reactors
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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