



Northeast  
Nuclear Energy

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The Northeast Utilities System

OCT - 5 1998

Docket No. 50-423

B17480

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3  
Commitment Clarification - LER 97-021-00  
Expansion Joint Tie Rod Assemblies

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the action taken in completing a commitment that was previously submitted to the NRC in LER 97-021-00, "Defective Design of RSS Expansion Joint Tie Rod Assembly."

Within LER 97-021-00 its was committed that:

1. "The required physical modifications to the eight expansion joints within the RSS would be completed prior to entry into mode 4."

Physical modifications, where needed to correct any deficiencies identified, were completed under two Design Change Records (DCR):

1. M3-96054, Rev 0, "MP3 Containment Recirculation System Modifications," which modified the expansion joints (3RSS\*EJ1A through D and 3RSS\*EJ2A though D) to provide adequate clearance for the intermediate tie rod nuts and also replaced the original tie rod material with a higher strength material (ASME SA 193 Gr B7). This modification was completed on February 17, 1998. Analysis of the expansion joint with these modifications indicates that the modified joints are within appropriate Code allowable
2. M3-97063, Rev 0, "RSS Expansion Joint Modifications," which rotated the expansion joints (3RSS\*EJ1A through D and 3RSS\*EJ2A though D) and installed smaller liners for 3RSS\*EJ2A through D. This modification was completed on February 26, 1998.

Subsequently, on March 16, 1998, during testing of the Recirculation Spray System (RSS), the liners for 3RSS\*EJ1A through D were discovered to be damaged. In

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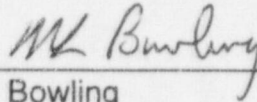
response to this condition (documented in Condition Report M3-98-1478), the affected expansion joints were removed from the system and replaced with piping. This modification was accomplished under DCR M3-97045 and completed on April 6, 1998.

In conclusion, the required physical modifications to the eight expansion joints within the RSS were completed prior to entry into Mode 4. The removal of four (4) of the eight (8) expansion joints was accomplished after completion of the corrective action committed to in LER 97-021-00.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. David W. Dodson at (860) 437-2346.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



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Martin L. Bowling  
Millstone Unit No.2 Recovery Officer

Attachments: (1)

1. NNECO's Commitments

cc: H. J. Miller, Region I Administrator  
J. W. Andersen, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit 3  
A. C. Cerne, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit 3

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Docket No. 50-423  
B17480

Attachment 1

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3  
NNECO's Commitments

September 1998



Enclosure  
List of Regulatory Commitments

The following table identifies those actions committed to by NNECO in this document. Please notify the Manager - Nuclear Licensing at the Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit No. 3 of any questions regarding this document or any associated regulatory commitments.

Number	Commitment	Due
N/A	None	N/A