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Docket No. 50-423

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

Dear Mr. Mroczka:

SUBJECT: VERIFICATION OF ADEQUATE BORATED WATER MIXING AND NATURAL CIRCULATION COOLDOWN (TAC NO. 66694)

In NUREG-1031, "Safety Evaluation Report Related to the Operation of Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3," the NRC staff requested that Northeast Utilities (NU) address the natural circulation capability of Millstone Unit 3. Section 5.4.7.5 of NUREG-1031 requested that NU provide a verification of adequate mixing of borated water added to the reactor coolant system under natural circulation conditions and confirm the ability of Millstone Unit 3 to cooldown under natural circulation.

By letter dated November 6, 1987, NU submitted a report which compared Millstone unit 3 to Diablo Canyon, which had completed successful natural circulation tests, for the purpose of confirming the Millstone Unit 3 natural circulation capability. Based upon our review of the November 6, 1987 submittal, as supplemented by letter dated August 3, 1988, we conclude that the Diablo Canyon tests are applicable to Millstone Unit 3 and that the NRC staff's concerns regarding borated water mixing and natural circulation cooldown have been adequately addressed.

Sincerely,

original signed by

David H. Jaffe, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

LA:AD
SNorris
10/18/88

PM:PD
DJaffee:cd
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D:PR-4
JStolz
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Mr. E. J. Mroczka
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company

Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Unit No. 3

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