



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 9, 1998

Mr. Martin L. Bowling, Jr.
Recovery Officer - Technical Services
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
c/o Ms. Patricia A. Loftus
Director - Regulatory Affairs
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, Connecticut 06385

SUBJECT: APPLICATION OF LEAK-BEFORE-BREAK STATUS TO PORTIONS OF THE
SAFETY INJECTION AND SHUTDOWN COOLING SYSTEM FOR THE
MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2 (TAC NO. MA2367)

Dear Mr. Bowling:

By letter dated July 24, 1998, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO/license) submitted a request for NRC review and approval of its leak-before-break (LBB) evaluation concerning portions of the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2 (MNPS-2), safety injection system (SIS) and shutdown cooling system (SCS) piping. The licensee's submittal was made in accordance with the provision General Design Criterion 4 (GDC 4) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 50 (10 CFR Part 50), Appendix A, which permits licensees to exclude the dynamic effects associated with postulated pipe ruptures from the facility's licensing basis if "analyses reviewed and approved by the Commission demonstrate that the probability of fluid system piping rupture is extremely low under conditions consistent with the design basis for the piping." LBB evaluations utilizing the guidance of NRC NUREG-1061, Volume 3, and/or Draft Standard Review Plan Section 3.6.3 have been previously approved by the staff as a method for making such a demonstration.

The staff has completed its evaluation of the licensee's submittal. The information provided by the licensee in its submittal was sufficient to permit the staff to independently evaluate the licensee's conclusions. While the results of the staff's evaluation do differ with the licensee's in some respects, the staff agrees with the licensee's conclusions that LBB behavior has been demonstrated for the analyzed portions of the MNPS-2 SIS and SCS piping. Therefore, the staff finds that the licensee may remove consideration of the dynamic effects associated with the postulated rupture of the analyzed portions of the SIS and SCS lines from the licensing basis of MNPS-2.

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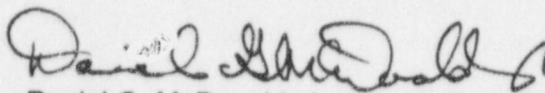
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M. L. Bowling, Jr.

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The enclosed Safety Evaluation provides the details of the staff's review. This completes all staff actions related to the referenced TAC number. If there are any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1408.

Sincerely,



Daniel G. McDonald, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Millstone Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-336

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page