

Mr. Martin L. Bowling, Jr.
Recovery Officer - Millstone Unit 2
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
c/o Ms. Patricia A. Loftus
Director - Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

March 13, 1998

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM ASME SECTION XI - MILLSTONE NUCLEAR
POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 3 (TAC NO. MA1084)

Dear Mr. Bowling:

By letter dated March 3, 1998, the Northeast Nuclear Energy Company submitted a request for a one-time relief from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(f) for performing the required inservice testing of certain Class 1 components in accordance with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section XI for Millstone Unit 3.

The staff concludes that pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii), the proposed alternative described in the enclosed safety evaluation is authorized in that compliance with the specified requirements would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. The alternative is authorized until the end of Refueling Outage 6.

Sincerely,
Original signed by:
Phillip F. McKee
Deputy Director for Licensing
Special Projects Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-423

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Phillip F. McKee", is written over a horizontal line.

Phillip F. McKee
Deputy Director for Licensing
Special Projects Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Pocket No. 50-423

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page