OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: Northeast Utilities

(EAs 96-146, 96-183, 96-198, 96-352, 97-141,

97-304, 97-377, 97-561)

Millstone Units 1, 2, and 3 Docket Nos. 50-423

Subject: EXERCISE OF ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION

This is to inform the Commission that the staff intends to exercise enforcement discretion per Sections VII.B.2 and VII.B.6 of the Enforcement Policy and not propose civil penalties or issue a Notice of Violation for a number of violations identified at Milstone Units 1, 2, and 3. These violations were identified during various inspections between 1995 and 1997 and are representative of the types of violations cited in the Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalties - \$2,100,000 issued on December 10, 1997. Enforcement discretion per Section VII.B.6 is being exercised for one potentially willful violation involving the Unit 3 recirculation spray and quench spray systems not being within the design basis of the plant. Although the violation may have been willful, discretion for this issue is being exercised due to the age of the event which occurred prior to licensing of Unit 3 and the fact that the responsible person is no longer with the company. Further, the staff is satisfied that the corrective actions to resolve these spray systems issues has been adequate.

It should be noted that the licensee has not been specifically informed of the NRC's plans to exercise enforcement discretion in this case. The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Notification April 16, 1998
Telephone Notification to Licensee April 16, 1998

The State of Connecticut will be notified.

SP

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PRELIMINARY INFORMATION - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNTIL VERIFICATION THAT LICENSEE HAS RECEIVED ACTION

ACRS

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