

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY (NNECO), ET AL.,  
DOCKET NO. 50-423, MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 3,  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF  
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (CORRECTION)

The following is a correction to the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact that was published in the Federal Register on September 7, 1999 (64 FR 48675). Changes are indicated by double bracketed text. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-49, issued to Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee), for operation of the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3 (MP3) located in New London County, Connecticut. The changes correct an error made regarding when the spent fuel storage pool at MP3 will no longer be capable of supporting a full core off-load. MP3 will continue to have full core off-load capability until after refueling outage 7, currently scheduled for early calendar year 2001.

The first paragraph under "The Need for the Proposed Action" is changed to read:

The Need for the Proposed Action:

An increase in spent fuel storage capacity is needed to maintain the capability for a full core off-load. [[Loss of full core off-load capability will occur as a result of refueling outage 7 (RFO 7), that is scheduled to start early in calendar year 2001.]] The licensee plans to install an additional 15 high density storage racks (with the capacity to store 1,104 fuel assemblies) following RFO 6 (14 will be installed between RFO 6 and RFO 7, with the last one to be installed later if it is necessary), while keeping the existing racks in place. The additional capacity will increase the capability for a full core off-load as the unit approaches the end of its operating license (November 25, 2025).

Similarly, the first paragraph under "Reduction of Spent Fuel Generation" is changed to read:

Reduction of Spent Fuel Generation

Generally, improved usage of the fuel and/or operation at a reduced power level would be an alternative that would decrease the amount of fuel being stored in the pool and thus increase the amount of time before full core off-load capacity is lost. With extended burnup of fuel assemblies, the fuel cycle would be extended and fewer off-loads would be necessary. [[This is not an alternative for resolving the loss of full core off-load capability because the spent fuel pool currently has the capacity for only one more full core off-load and some of the fuel to be off-loaded following RFO 7, currently scheduled for early in calendar year 2001, will have completed its operating history in the core. With the additional fuel left in the spent fuel pool after RFO 7, MP3 will no longer have the capability to conduct a full core off-load.]] Operating the plant at a reduced power level would not make effective use of available resources, and would cause unnecessary economic hardship on the licensee and its customers. Therefore, reducing the amount of spent fuel generated by increasing burnup further or reducing power is not considered a practical alternative.

Agencies and Persons Contacted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on October 8, 1999, the staff consulted with the Connecticut State official, Mr. Denny Galloway of the Department of Environmental Protection, regarding the correction of the environmental assessment for the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated March 19, 1999, which is available for public inspection at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory

Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC. Publically available records will be accessible electronically from the ADAMS Public Library component on the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov> (the Electronic Reading Room).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of December 1999.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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