

April 11, 2000

Mr. S. E. Scace - Director
Nuclear Oversight and Regulatory Affairs
c/o Mr. David A. Smith
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385-0128

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
MILLSTONE UNIT 3 (TAC NO.MA4586)

Dear Mr. Scace:

By the Northeast Nuclear Energy Company application dated January 18, 1999, and Holtec International affidavit dated December 10, 1998, executed by Michael P. McNamara, you submitted "Licensing Report for Reclassification of Discharge in Millstone Point Unit 3 Spent Fuel Pool", Holtec Report No.: HI-971843 and requested that it be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. A nonproprietary version was submitted for placement in the NRC public document room.

The affidavit stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

1. Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by Holtec's competitors without license from Holtec International constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies;
2. Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product;
3. Information which reveals aspects of past, present, or future Holtec International customer-funded development plans and programs of potential commercial value to Holtec International;
4. Information which discloses patentable subject matter for which it may be desirable to obtain patent protection;
5. The information classified as proprietary was developed and compiled by Holtec International at a significant cost to Holtec International. This information is classified as proprietary because it contains detailed historical data and analytical results not available elsewhere. This information would provide other parties, including competitors, with

information from Holtec International's technical database and the results of evaluations performed using codes developed by Holtec International. Release of this information would improve a competitor's position without the competitor having to expend similar resources for the development of the database. A substantial effort has been expended by Holtec International to develop this information.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure. Therefore, the version of the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-1484 .

Sincerely,

/RA/

Victor Nerses, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-423

cc: See next page

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NAME	VNerses:lcc	TClark	JClifford	JHannon	MPSiemien (as corrected)
DATE	4/4/00	4/4/00	4/12/00	4/11/00	03/30/00

Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Unit 3

cc:

Ms. L. M. Cuoco
Senior Nuclear Counsel
Northeast Utilities Service Company
P. O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141-0270

Edward L. Wilds, Jr., Ph.D.
Director, Division of Radiation
Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Regional Administrator, Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

First Selectmen
Town of Waterford
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. M. H. Brothers
Vice President - Nuclear Operations
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. M. R. Scully, Executive Director
Connecticut Municipal Electric
Energy Cooperative
30 Stott Avenue
Norwich, CT 06360

Mr. J. T. Carlin
Vice President - Human Services - Nuclear
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. F. C. Rothen
Vice President - Nuclear Operations
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Ernest C. Hadley, Esquire
1040 B Main Street
P.O. Box 549
West Wareham, MA 02576

Ms. Cynthia Arcate, Vice President
Generation Investments
New England Power Company
25 Research Drive
Westborough, MA 01582

Deborah Katz, President
Citizens Awareness Network
P.O. Box 83
Shelburne Falls, MA 03170

Mr. Allan Johanson, Assistant Director
Office of Policy and Management
Policy Development & Planning Division
450 Capitol Avenue - MS# 52ERN
P. O. Box 341441
Hartford, CT 06134-1441

Ms. Terry Concannon
Co-Chair
Nuclear Energy Advisory Council
41 South Buckboard Lane
Marlborough, CT 06447

Mr. R. P. Necci
Vice President - Nuclear Technical Services
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Millstone Nuclear Power Station
Unit 3

cc:

Mr. Evan W. Woollacott
Co-Chair
Nuclear Energy Advisory Council
128 Terry's Plain Road
Simsbury, CT 06070

Mr. John W. Beck, President
Little Harbor Consultants, Inc.
Millstone - ITPOP Project Office
P.O. Box 0630
Niantic, CT 06357-0630

Mr. L. J. Olivier
Senior Vice President and
Chief Nuclear Officer - Millstone
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. C. J. Schwarz
Station Director
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Senior Resident Inspector
Millstone Nuclear Power Station
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 513
Niantic, CT 06357

Nicholas J. Scobbo, Jr., Esquire
Ferriter, Scobbo, Caruso, & Rodophele, P.C.
75 State Street, 7th Floor
Boston, MA 02108-1807

Mr. G. D. Hicks
Director - Nuclear Training Services
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Citizens Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Ms. Geri Winslow
P. O. Box 199
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. William D. Meinert
Nuclear Engineer
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale
Electric Company
P.O. Box 426
Ludlow, MA 01056

Mr. B. D. Kenyon
President and Chief Executive Officer-
NNECO
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. D. B. Amerine
Vice President - Engineering Services
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. D. A. Smith
Manager - Regulatory Affairs
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
P. O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Ms. Nancy Burton
147 Cross Highway
Redding Ridge, CT 00870