

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Thursday, April 4, 1996)

NOTE TO EDITORS:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued the attached letter to Northeast Utilities (NU) requiring certain information, under oath or affirmation, before restarting its Millstone 3 nuclear power plant in Connecticut.

The NRC is taking this action based on preliminary results of a special inspection that has identified design and equipment deficiencies described in an enclosure to the letter. The deficiencies are similar in nature to those at Millstone 1 and 2, both of which are in shut down.

Millstone 3 is required to submit to the NRC, seven days before restarting from its current refueling outage, actions taken to assure future operation will be conducted in compliance with its operating license, NRC regulations and final safety analysis report for the plant.

Millstone 1 and 2 also are required to provide similar information and operating assurance to the NRC before being able to restart.

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Attachments:
As stated

April 4, 1996

Mr. Robert E. Busch
President - Energy Resources Group
Northeast Utilities Service Company
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

Dear Mr. Busch:

On March 7, 1996, the NRC issued to Northeast Utilities (NU) a letter describing its review of an internal NU document, "ACR 7007 - Event Response Team Report" (7007 Report), dated February 22, 1996 and requesting additional information on NU's actions and plans to address the conclusions of the 7007 Report as it pertains to Millstone Unit 3 and Haddam Neck. At the time we issued that letter, we did not have a recent inspection history or findings with regard to Millstone Unit 3 that revealed design deficiencies similar in number and nature to those of Millstone Units 1 and 2, but the 7007 Report identified the potential for similar configuration management conditions at Millstone Unit 3.

Since the March 7, 1996 letter, the NRC has initiated a special inspection at Millstone Unit 3. Based on the preliminary results of the portion of the special inspection conducted to date, we have identified programmatic issues and design deficiencies at Millstone Unit 3 that are similar in nature to those at Millstone Units 1 and 2. Examples of some of the deficiencies found in the special inspection are described in the enclosure to this letter. In addition, you have recently identified design deficiencies in the auxiliary feedwater containment isolation valves and the recirculation spray system that have existed for more than 10 years.

These findings raise substantial questions as to whether the Millstone Unit 3 facility is being operated and maintained in conformance with the updated final safety analysis report (UFSAR), license conditions, and Commission regulations. Therefore, the NRC requires additional information to be submitted pursuant to Section 182a of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and 10 CFR 50.54(f) in writing, under oath or affirmation, to determine whether or not the license for Millstone Unit 3 should be suspended, modified, or revoked. The information is to be submitted no later than 7 days prior to Millstone Unit 3 restart (prior to criticality) from its current outage and is to describe actions taken to ensure that future operation of Millstone Unit 3 will be conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Millstone Unit 3 operating license, the Commission's regulations, including 10 CFR 50.59, and the Millstone Unit 3 UFSAR. This request for information supercedes our previous request of March 7, 1996.

Enclosure: ~~Prepared by the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20535~~

Findings

~~Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20535~~

the preceding 166 days, which is the period of time that the vessel was in the United States. The vessel was in the United States for a total of 166 days during the period of time that the vessel was in the United States.

PRELIMINARY INSPECTION FINDINGS

result: $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) dx = 1$