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UTILITY TO BRIEF NRC ON MILLSTONE 1 DECOMMISSIONING PLANS

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hear from Northeast Utilities representatives on Wednesday, December 2, about decommissioning plans for the Millstone 1 nuclear power plant. Northeast Utilities owns Millstone 1, a boiling-water reactor in Waterford, Conn.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. in Room 11-B-2 at NRC headquarters, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md. It will be open to the public for observation.

Northeast Utilities announced in July it was permanently closing the plant, following the completion of an analysis that showed it would not be economically viable for the company to continue to operate the unit. The utility has not yet stated which method of decommissioning it plans to use; options include immediate dismantlement or storage of the facility for a certain period of time before dismantlement begins to allow radioactivity to decrease.

Millstone 1 began commercial operation in March 1971. After the 660-megawatt reactor was shut down for a scheduled refueling outage in November 1995, the NRC required that it remain out of service until safety concerns were addressed. It never returned to service.

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