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The Northeast Utilities System

Docket No. 50-423
B16709
September 18, 1997

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Commitment Revision - LER 96-029-00
Installation of Restrictive Orifices In Selected ECCS Branch Lines

The purpose of this letter is to revise the commitments that were previously submitted to the NRC in LER 96-029-00, "Functional Deficiency in the Setting of the Emergency Core Cooling System Throttle Valve Positions". These commitments included; 1) "Install restrictive orifices in selected ECCS branch lines to relieve the throttling burden on the branch line throttling valves, permitting the valves to be set in more open positions while still satisfying the minimum required deliverable flows during the injection phase and recirculation phase. Additionally, install restrictive orifices in the suction supply headers to the CHS pumps from the RSS pumps to mitigate RSS pump boost" and; 2) "Maintain the plant in Mode 5 or lower until such time as modification to the suction supply headers to the CHS pumps from the RSS pumps have been completed and restrictive orifices have been installed in each ECCS branch line."

The potential high head Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) pump runout during post Loss Of Coolant Accident (LOCA) recirculation due to Containment Recirculation Spray System (RSS) pump boost effect was analyzed using a detailed computer model. This analysis showed that the addition of restrictive orifices in selected ECCS branch lines to relieve the throttling burden on the branch line throttling valves, combined with adjustment of throttle-valve position and testing would ensure safe long term operation during Post LOCA recirculation. Based on this analysis, it was determined that the installation of restrictive orifices in the suction supply headers to the Charging System (CHS) pumps from the RSS pumps was not required to mitigate RSS pump boost.

Therefore, the portions of the commitments pertaining to installation of restrictive orifices in the suction supply headers to the CHS pumps from the RSS pumps to mitigate RSS pump boost are no longer applicable. The revised commitments are

provided in Attachment 1. The remaining commitments in our letter of September 27, 1996 are unchanged.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. D. A. Smith at (860) 437-5840.

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

G. D. Hicks
Director - Millstone Unit No. 3

cc: H. J. Miller, Region I Administrator
A. C. Cerne, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit No. 3
J. W. Andersen, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 3
W. D. Travers, Dr., Director, Special Projects

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Attachment 1

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
NNECO's Commitments
In Response To
(LER 96-029-00)

September 1997

Enclosure
List of Regulatory Commitments

The following table identifies those actions committed to by NNECO in this document. Please notify the Manager - Nuclear Licensing at the Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit No. 3 of any questions regarding this document or any associated regulatory commitments.

Number	Commitment	Due
B15890-01:	Install restrictive orifices in selected ECCS branch lines to relieve the throttling burden on the branch line throttling valves, permitting the valves to be set in more open positions while still satisfying the minimum required deliverable flows during the injection phase and recirculation phase and preventing pump run out when subjected to RSS pump boost.	Prior to entry into Mode 4
B15890-02	Maintain the plant in Mode 5 or lower until such time as restrictive orifices have been installed in selected ECCS branch line and the throttling valves have been balanced to meet Technical Specification requirements.	N/A