

September 11, 2002

Mr. J. A. Price
Site Vice President - Millstone
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Mr. David A. Smith
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

SUBJECT: BULLETIN 2002-01, "REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD DEGRADATION AND REACTOR COOLANT PRESSURE BOUNDARY INTEGRITY," 15-DAY RESPONSE FOR MILLSTONE POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 3 (TAC NO. MB4556)

Dear Mr. Price:

On March 18, 2002, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff issued Bulletin 2002-01, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Degradation and Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Integrity," to the industry requesting that addressees provide information related to the structural integrity of the reactor coolant pressure (RCP) boundary, including the reactor pressure vessel head, and the extent to which inspections have been undertaken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements. Bulletin 2002-01 also required licensees to provide the basis for concluding that plans for future inspections of the RCP boundary will satisfy applicable regulatory requirements at their respective pressurized water reactor (PWR) plants. All addressees were requested to respond to Items 1.A. through E. within 15 days of issuance of the Bulletin, or to provide a written response to the NRC in accordance with the provisions of Title 10, Section 50.54(f), of the *Code of Federal Regulations* if they are unable to provide the information, or they cannot meet the requested completion dates.

You submitted your 15-day Bulletin response by letter dated April 2, 2002, as supplemented by letter dated August 2, 2002. The NRC staff finds that you have provided the requested information, and has concluded that your plant does not appear to have conditions similar to those which lead to the degradation at Davis-Besse. However, the staff may issue questions to confirm or verify the information that was provided in your 15-day response to Bulletin 2002-01.

We will complete a full review of your response to Bulletin 2002-01 after we review your response to Items 2 and 3 of the Bulletin.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

cc: See next page

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Millstone Power Station
Unit 3

cc:

Ms. L. M. Cuoco
Senior Nuclear Counsel
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

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. P. J. Parulis
Manager - Nuclear Oversight
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. W. R. Matthews
Vice President and Senior
Nuclear Executive - Millstone
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Ernest C. Hadley, Esquire
P.O. Box 1104
West Falmouth, MA 02574-1104

Mr. John Markowicz
Co-Chair
Nuclear Energy Advisory Council
9 Susan Terrace
Waterford, CT 06385

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

Mr. D. A. Christian
Senior Vice President - Nuclear Operations
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Innsbrook Technical Center - 2SW
5000 Dominion Boulevard
Waterford, CT 06385

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

Mr. G. D. Hicks
Director - Nuclear Station Safety
and Licensing
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. D. A. Smith
Manager - Licensing
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

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

Millstone Power Station
Unit 3

cc:

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

Mr. S. E. Scace
Director - Nuclear Engineering
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. M. J. Wilson
Manager - Nuclear Training
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.
Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385