

Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.  
Millstone Power Station  
Rope Ferry Road  
Waterford, CT 06385



**Dominion™**

AUG 23 2002

Docket No. 50-336  
B18740

RE: 10 CFR 50.54(f)

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

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2  
15 Day Response to NRC Bulletin 2002-02  
Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and  
Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs

On August 9, 2002, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2002-02,<sup>(1)</sup> "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs," to the industry. The Bulletin required a 30 day response with information on supplemental head and nozzle inspections using non-visual non-destructive examination (NDE) methods. Should the licensee be unable to provide the information within 30 days, the Bulletin requires a 15 day response addressing alternative courses of action and the basis for the acceptability of the proposed alternative course of action.

Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. (DNC) will provide the requested information for Millstone Unit No. 2 by December 31, 2002.

This course of action is acceptable based on the following:

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<sup>(1)</sup> Nuclear Regulatory Commission Bulletin from D. B. Matthews to the industry, "NRC Bulletin 2002-02: Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs," dated August 9, 2002.

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- Millstone Unit No. 2 completed its last refueling outage including comprehensive head and nozzle inspections in April 2002. The next refueling outage is scheduled for September 2003.
- During the 2002 refueling outage, an ultrasonic inspection (UT) of 100 percent of the penetrations in the reactor vessel head was performed per DNC letter dated April 2, 2002.<sup>(2)</sup> This inspection included a leak path evaluation of the interference fit region, and no leaking penetrations were found. Three penetrations with shallow surface cracks were repaired as described in DNC letter dated April 30, 2002.<sup>(3)</sup>
- The technology for inspecting reactor vessel head penetrations (RVHP) continues to evolve. The experience gained by the NDE vendors from the 2002 fall outages will likely influence inspections to be performed during future outages.
- Vendor selection is contingent upon review of qualifications, availability, and inspection methodology that could be affected by future inspection performance.
- It is imperative that DNC evaluate technological advancements in the methodologies used for the RVHP examinations before determining the techniques that will best accommodate the configuration of the Millstone Unit No. 2 vessel head.

There are no regulatory commitments contained within this letter.

Should there be any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Paul R. Willoughby at (860) 447-1791, extension 3655.

Very truly yours,

DOMINION NUCLEAR CONNECTICUT, INC.

  
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William R. Matthews, Vice President  
and Senior Nuclear Executive - Millstone

cc: See next page

<sup>(2)</sup> J. A. Price letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Response to NRC Bulletin 2002-01, Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Degradation and Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Integrity," dated April 2, 2002.

<sup>(3)</sup> J. A. Price letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Response to NRC Bulletin 2001-01, Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles," dated April 30, 2002.

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cc: H. J. Miller, Region I Administrator  
R. B. Ennis, NRC Senior Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 2  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit No. 2

Affirmation

I, William R. Matthews, being duly sworn, state that I am Vice President and Senior Nuclear Executive of Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc., that I am authorized to sign and file this information with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on behalf of Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc., and that the statements made and the matters set forth herein pertaining to Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

DOMINION NUCLEAR CONNECTICUT, INC.

William R. Matthews  
William R. Matthews, Vice President  
and Senior Nuclear Executive - Millstone

STATE OF Connecticut  
COUNTY OF New London

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public, in and for the County and State above named, this 23 day of August, 2002.

Wm. E. Brown

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**WM. E. BROWN**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC**  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES MAR. 31, 2006

