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NRC BEGINS SPECIAL INSPECTION AT MILLSTONE UNIT 2 NUCLEAR PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has sent a Special Inspection Team to the Millstone Power Station to review operator performance issues that occurred during main turbine control valve testing at Unit 2 on February 12. The plant is operated by Dominion Resources and is located in Waterford, Conn.

“Even though there was no impact on public health and safety, it is important that we have a complete understanding of this operational event and that Dominion fully assesses the root cause and takes comprehensive actions to prevent recurrence,” said NRC Region I Administrator Bill Dean.

The three-member team will evaluate the operator actions and events surrounding an unplanned increase in reactor power from 88 percent to 96 percent power during main turbine control valve testing.

The NRC resident inspectors assigned to Millstone have been following up on this event since it occurred. In addition, an operations engineer from the Region I Office in King of Prussia, Pa., was sent to the site last week.

The Team will expand on the inspection activities started immediately after the event. The team will review Dominion’s organizational and operator response during the event and the causes of the event. The Team also will conduct interviews to understand operator actions during the event.

The inspection report documenting the team’s findings will be issued about 45 days after the completion of the inspection.

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