



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs, Region I
475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pa. 19406

E-mail: opa1@nrc.gov

Site: www.nrc.gov

Blog: <http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov>

No. I-11-027

August 8, 2011

Contact: Diane Screnci, (610) 337-5330
Neil Sheehan, (610) 337-5331

Email: OPA1.RESOURCE@nrc.gov

NRC CITES MILLSTONE UNIT 2 NUCLEAR PLANT FOR INSPECTION FINDING OF LOW TO MODERATE SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE

The Millstone Unit 2 nuclear power plant will receive additional oversight from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as a result of a “White” (low to moderate safety significance) inspection finding that has now been finalized.

The inspection finding involves the failure of Millstone Unit 2 personnel to carry out their assigned roles and responsibilities and inadequate reactor power-level management during main turbine control valve testing. This contributed to an unanticipated reactor power increase, from 88 to 96 percent of rated thermal power, on Feb. 12, 2011.

An NRC team identified the finding during a Special Inspection conducted from Feb. 22 through April 14, 2011, at Millstone Unit 2, which is located in Waterford, Conn., and operated by Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. The Special Inspection was initiated in response to the unintended reactor power change.

“While the NRC did not identify any impacts on plant safety due to the Feb. 12th event, the agency holds control room operators to the highest standards,” NRC Region I Administrator Bill Dean said. “This inspection finding signals the need for plant personnel to step back and learn from this event in order to prevent it from occurring again.”

On July 19, NRC staff held a Regulatory Conference with Dominion to discuss the inspection finding. During that meeting, the company provided additional information for the staff’s consideration and described corrective actions taken or planned in response to the event.

At a future date, the NRC will perform a supplemental inspection at Millstone Unit 2 to evaluate the company’s corrective actions.

###

News releases are available through a free [listserv subscription](#) or by clicking on the [EMAIL UPDATES](#) link on the NRC homepage (www.nrc.gov). E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC’s website.