

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE: : DOCKET NO. F-2008
: :
REVIEW OF THE TEN-YEAR FORECAST :
OF CONNECTICUT ELECTRIC LOADS :
AND RESOURCES : AUGUST 14, 2008

RESPONSES OF DOMINION NUCLEAR CONNECTICUT, INC.
TO POST-HEARING INTERROGATORIES
FROM THE CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Question No. 1

Compare and contrast the policies of France and the United States regarding the reprocessing and storage of spent nuclear fuel. For example, how is spent fuel stored in France versus the United States?

Response

The policy in France is to reprocess spent fuel, which reduces the need for onsite storage. In contrast, the policy in the United States has until recently disfavored reprocessing of spent fuel and required interim onsite storage of spent fuel while a permanent geologic repository is being developed. Millstone's on-site spent fuel storage facility was approved by the Siting Council in Docket No. 265. The U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE") continues to pursue a policy to consolidate national storage of spent nuclear fuel at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. However, in 2006, DOE initiated an Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative to develop, *inter alia*, proliferation-resistant reprocessing technology; and in 2007, DOE initiated its Global Nuclear Energy Partnership which is considering means of developing, demonstrating, and deploying advanced technologies for recycling spent nuclear fuel that do not separate plutonium.

Question No. 2

Is the ban on reprocessing of spent fuel in the United States due to a federal law, federal regulation, executive order, or industry practice? Explain.

Response

There is no law or regulation in the United States that bans reprocessing. Rather, reprocessing of spent fuel from nuclear power plants was discontinued in the 1970's as a result of presidential policy statements and the related termination of Federal funding supporting the development of commercial reprocessing.

Question No. 3

Would the installation of a larger nuclear unit (i.e. greater in power output [than] the original unit) at the Millstone 1 site make such a project economically viable and worthy of consideration? Explain.

Response

In the truest sense, economies-of-scale is a significant area of focus in evaluating the economics of building any baseload generating facility, due to the obvious impacts of procuring large-scale equipment, mobilizing contractors, etc. The actual economic viability of developing any new nuclear unit depends on such factors as the availability of financing, rate recovery, and Regional/State support. In general, expanding nuclear power should be part of the long term solution to New England's energy needs. Additionally, it must also be noted that Connecticut law currently imposes a moratorium on developing another nuclear unit in the State. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-136.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 14th day of August 2008, a copy of the foregoing was sent via electronic mail to:

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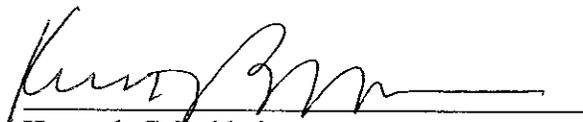
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