

MAY 1 1984

Docket Nos.: 50-443
and 50-444

Mr. Robert J. Harrison
President and Chief Executive Officer
Public Service Company of New Hampshire
Post Office Box 330
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105

Dear Mr. Harrison:

Subject: Order Extending Construction Completion Dates - Seabrook Station,
Unit 1 and Unit 2

In response to your request of May 26, 1983, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued an Order extending the construction completion dates for the Seabrook Station, Unit 1 and Unit 2. The referenced Order extends the latest construction completion dates specified in CPPR-135 and CPPR-136 to June 30, 1986 for Unit 1 and to October 31, 1988 for Unit 2.

Copies of the Order and the staff's evaluation are enclosed for your information. The Order has been transmitted to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Darrell G. Eisenhower

Darrell G. Eisenhower, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:
As stated

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

DL:LB#3
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1/12/84

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1/12/84

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Seabrook

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MAY 1 1984

ORDER EXTENDING CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATES
SEABROOK STATION, UNIT 1 AND UNIT 2

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Docket File 50-443/444

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, ET AL*

SEABROOK STATION, UNIT 1 AND UNIT 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-443 AND 50-444

ORDER EXTENDING CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE

Public Service Company of New Hampshire, et al. and the other owners listed below are the holders of Construction Permit Nos. CPPR-135 and CPPR-136 issued by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on July 7, 1976 for the Seabrook Station, Unit 1 and Unit 2. These facilities are presently under construction at the applicants' site in Rockingham County, New Hampshire.

By letter dated May 26, 1983, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed a request for extension of the latest construction completion dates for the facilities. The construction permits presently have a June 30, 1983 latest completion date for Unit 1 and a October 31, 1984 latest completion date for Unit 2. The request is to extend the latest completion dates to June 30, 1986 for Unit 1 and October 31, 1988 for Unit 2.

PSNH states that this extension is requested because construction has been delayed due to:

*The current construction permit holders for Seabrook Station are: Bangor Hydro-Electric Company, Canal Electric Company, Central Maine Power Company, Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, Connecticut Light & Power Company, Fitchburg Gas & Electric Light Company, Hudson Light & Power Department, Maine Public Service Company, Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company, Montaup Electric Company, New England Power Company, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc., Public Service Company of New Hampshire, Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant, the United Illuminating Company, Vermont Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc., and Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1. The original dates for completion were set forth in the Application as filed on March 30, 1973. The public documents on this docket provide evidence which substantiates the delays which occurred prior to issuance of the permits in July 1976, and the two cessations of construction which were subsequently ordered as a result of regulatory conflicts between federal agencies, including a four-month suspension in 1977 and a three-week suspension in July 1978, each of which resulted in delay for restarting as well.
2. Changes in the scope of the project, including increases in the amount of material and engineering required as a result of regulatory actions, in particular, those since TMI.
3. Construction delays and lower than estimated productivity have slowed the installation of material and equipment.
4. Construction slowdowns necessitated by State regulatory actions.


Prior public notice of this extension was not required since the Commission has determined that 1) this action involves no significant hazards consideration, 2) good cause has been shown for the delays, and 3) the requested extension is for a reasonable period of time. The staff's conclusions are set forth in the NRC staff's evaluation of the request for extension.

The Commission has determined that this action will not result in any significant environmental impact and, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.5(d)(4), an environmental impact statement, or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal, need not be prepared in connection with this action.

The NRC staff's evaluation of the request for extension of the construction permit is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555, and at the Exeter Public Library, Front Street, Exeter, New Hampshire 03833.

It is HEREBY ORDERED that the latest completion date for CPPR-135 is extended from June 30, 1983 to June 30, 1986 and the latest completion date for CPPR-136 is extended from October 31, 1984 to October 31, 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance: May 1, 1984

DL:LB#3
VNenses/yt
1/12/84

DL:LB#3
JLee
1/12/84

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INlovak
1/12/84

DL:DIR
DGEisenhut
4/2/84

EVALUATION OF A REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT NOS. CPPR-135 AND CPPR-136
SEABROOK STATION, UNIT 1 AND UNIT 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-443 AND 50-444

Introduction

Construction Permit Nos. CPPR-135 and CPPR-136 for Seabrook Station, Unit 1 and Unit 2 were issued on July 27, 1976 to the Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH), et. al.* The construction permits presently have latest completion dates of June 30, 1983 for Unit 1 and October 31, 1984 for Unit 2. By letter dated May 26, 1983, the PSNH filed a request for extension of the latest construction completion dates for Seabrook Station, Unit 1 to June 30, 1986 and Seabrook Station, Unit 2 to October 31, 1988.

Discussion

In their application for extension of the construction completion dates, the PSNH indicated that the following factors are responsible for the delay in completion of the construction activities:

*The current construction permit holders for Seabrook Station are: Bangor Hydro-Electric Company, Canal Electric Company, Central Maine Power Company, Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, Connecticut Light & Power Company, Fitchburg Gas & Electric Light Company, Hudson Light & Power Department, Maine Public Service Company, Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company, Montaup Electric Company, New England Power Company, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc., Public Service Company of New Hampshire, Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant, the United Illuminating Company, Vermont Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc., and Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1. The original dates for completion were set forth in the application as filed on March 30, 1973. The public documents on this docket provide evidence which substantiates the delays which occurred prior to issuance of the permits in July 1976, and the two cessations of construction which were subsequently ordered as a result of regulatory conflicts between federal agencies, including a four-month suspension in 1977 and a three-week suspension in July 1978, each of which resulted in delay for restarting as well.
2. Changes in the scope of the project, including increases in the amount of material and engineering required as a result of regulatory actions, in particular, those since TMI.
3. Construction delays and lower than estimated productivity have slowed the installation of material and equipment.
4. Construction slowdowns necessitated by State regulatory actions.

Collectively, these factors have delayed completion of construction of Seabrook Station, Unit 1 and Unit 2. PSNH has requested an extension of the latest completion dates to June 30, 1986 for Unit 1 and October 31, 1988 for Unit 2.

The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in the PSNH's submittal. Based on the review, the staff concludes that the factors considered as a whole constitute good cause for granting the requested extension. The staff also concurs with the permittees as to the reasonableness of time estimated for the delay. As a result of the staff's review of the Final Safety Analysis Report to date, and considering the nature of the delays, the staff has identified no areas of significant safety consideration in connection with the extension of the construction completion date for the Seabrook Station, Unit 1 and Unit 2. The only change proposed by the permittees to the existing construction permits is an extension of the latest construction completion dates. This extension will not allow any work to be performed involving new safety information of a type that was not considered by previous Commission safety reviews of the facilities and that is not already allowed by the existing construction permits. Therefore, the staff finds that (1) this action does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) prior public notice of this action is not required, (3) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by the requested extension of the construction completion dates, and (4) good cause exists for issuance of an Order extending the construction completion dates.

The staff has determined that this Order does not authorize a change in effluent types or total amount nor an increase in power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, the staff

concludes that this Order involves no action which is significant from the standpoint of environmental impact, and that pursuant to 10 CFR Section 51.5(d)(4), an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this Order.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the staff concludes that issuance of an Order extending the latest construction completion dates for the Seabrook Station, Unit 1 and Unit 2, as set forth in CPPR-135 and CPPR-136, to June 30, 1986 and October 31, 1988 respectively, is reasonable and should be authorized.

Dk:LB#3
VH:SES/yt
1/12/84

Dk:LB#3
G. W. Knighton
4/2/84