

September 26, 1995

Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum, Senior Vice President  
and Chief Nuclear Officer  
North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation  
P.O. Box 300  
Seabrook, NH 03874

SUBJECT: SEABROOK STATION, UNIT 1 - FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE RELATED TO  
LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST 95-04 (TAC M93410)

Dear Mr. Feigenbaum:

The Commission has forwarded the enclosed "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination and Opportunity for Hearing" to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

The notice relates to your September 5, 1995, application to amend the Technical Specifications to reduce the maximum allowable Power Range Neutron Flux - High setpoint with inoperable Main Steam Safety Valves (MSSVs) and to reduce the setpoints of the MSSVs.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Albert W. De Agazio, Sr. Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443  
Serial No. SEA-95-021

Enclosure: As Stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert W. De Agazio, Sr.".

Albert W. De Agazio, Sr. Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443  
Serial No. SEA-95-021

Enclosure: As Stated

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T. Feigenbaum  
North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation

Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1

cc:

Lillian M. Cuoco, Esq.  
Senior Nuclear Counsel  
Northeast Utilities Service Company  
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Board of Selectmen  
Town of Amesbury  
Town Hall  
Amesbury, MA 01913

Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Seabrook Nuclear Power Station  
P.O. Box 1149  
Seabrook, NH 03874

Mr. Jack Dolan  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Region I  
J.W. McCormack P.O. &  
Courthouse Building, Room 442  
Boston, MA 02109

Jane Spector  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
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Washington, DC 20426

Mr. David Rodham, Director  
ATTN: James Muckerheide  
Massachusetts Civil Defense Agency  
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P.O. Box 1496  
Framingham, MA 01701-0317

Mr. T. L. Harpster  
North Atlantic Energy Service  
Corporation  
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Seabrook, NH 03874

Jeffrey Howard, Attorney General  
G. Dana Bisbee, Deputy Attorney  
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Concord, NH 03301

Town of Exeter  
10 Front Street  
Exeter, NH 03823

Mr. R. M. Kacich, Director  
Nuclear Planning, Licensing & Budgeting  
Northeast Utilities Service Company  
P.O. Box 128  
Waterford, CT 06385

Mr. George L. Iverson, Director  
New Hampshire Office of Emergency  
Management  
State Office Park South  
107 Pleasant Street  
Concord, NH 03301

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NORTH ATLANTIC ENERGY SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL

DOCKET NO. 50-443

NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE, PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS  
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-86 issued to North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (the licensee) for operation of the Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1 located in Rockingham County, New Hampshire.

The proposed amendment would modify the Appendix A Technical Specifications (TSs) for the Turbine Cycle Safety Valves. Specifically, the proposed amendment would change Seabrook Station Appendix A Technical Specification Table 3.7-1 to reduce the maximum allowable Power Range Neutron Flux - High setpoints with inoperable Main Steam Safety Valves (MSSVs) and Table 3.7-2 to reduce the opening setpoints of the MSSVs.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of

accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis against the standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c). The NRC staff's review is presented below.

- A. The changes do not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated (10 CFR 50.92(c)(1)) because the proposed setpoint reductions assure that the secondary system pressure will be limited to within 110% (1320 psia) of its design pressure of 1200 psia during the most severe anticipated system operational transient. The most severe anticipated transient remains a turbine trip from 100% rated thermal power coincident with an assumed loss of condenser heat sink. No other changes are made to the design or manner of operation of structures, systems or components.
- B. The changes do not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated (10 CFR 50.92(c)(2)) because the changes do not cause the associated structures, systems, or components to be operated outside their original design envelope. No other changes are made to the design or manner of operation of structures, systems, or components, and no new failure mechanisms are introduced.
- C. The changes do not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety (10 CFR 50.92(c)(3)) because the changes will assure that the associated structures, systems and components will continue to be operated within their original design envelope, and the proposed changes assure that the

acceptance criteria for previously evaluated accidents will continue to be met. The proposed changes assure that the consequences of postulated overpressure events will remain in compliance with the Basis to Technical Specification 3.7.1.1. Specifically, the Secondary System pressure will be limited to within 110% (1320 psia) of its design pressure of 1200 psia during the most severe anticipated system operational transient. The most severe anticipated transient remains a Turbine trip from 100% Rated Thermal Power coincident with an assumed loss of condenser heat sink.

Based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notice of issuance and

provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and should cite the publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room 6D22, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By November 1, 1995 , the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at Exeter Public Library, Founders Park, Exeter, NH 03833. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed

by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted.

In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last 10 days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 248-5100 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number N1023 and the following message addressed to Phillip F. McKee: petitioner's name and telephone number, date petition was mailed, plant name, and publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to Lillian M. Cuoco, Esquire, Northeast Utilities Service Company, Post Office Box 270, Hartford CT 06141-0270, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated September 5, 1995, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at Exeter Public Library, Founders Park, Exeter, NH 03833.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26th day of September 1995

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Albert W. De Agazio, Sr. Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation