

FPL Energy Seabrook Station P.O. Box 300 Seabrook, NH 03874 (603) 773-7000

SEP 1 2 2003

Docket No. 50-443 <u>NYN-03079</u>

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Attention: Document Control Desk Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Ref.: NYN-03013; Decommissioning Funding Status Report; dated March 6, 2003

## Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1 Response to Request for Information Decommissioning Funding Status Report

FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC (FPLE Seabrook) is providing in Enclosure (1) a copy of the State of New Hampshire approval of Real Investment Earnings Rates assumed for the 2003 funding schedules provided with the March 6, 2003 Decommissioning Funding Status Report (Ref.:NYN-03013).

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (603) 773-7194.

Very truly yours,

FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC

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Japies. M. Peschel Regulatory Programs Manager

Enclosures

cc: H. J. Miller, NRC Region I Administrator
V. Nerses, NRC Project Manager, Project Directorate I-2
G. T. Dentel, NRC Senior Resident Inspector
M. A. Dusaniwskyj, NRC, Financial Analyst

## ENCLOSURE 1 TO NYN-03079



## North Atlantic

North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation P.O. Box 300 Seabrook, NH 03874 (603) 474-9521

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The Northeast Utilities System

March 4, 2002 NA # 020062

Mr. Thomas B. Getz Nuclear Decommissioning Financing Committee New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 8 Old Suncook Road Concord, New Hampshire 03301

## SUBJECT:

Annual Report From The New Hampshire State Treasurer and North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (Managing Agent)

Dear Mr. Getz:

Pursuant to Section 10.01(E) of the Seabrook Nuclear Decommissioning Financing Fund Master Trust Agreement, we are submitting to the Nuclear Decommissioning Financing Committee (NDFC) the 2002 decommissioning update report setting forth the following:

(1) A current estimate of inflation.

- (2) A current estimate of future earnings of the Nuclear Decommissioning Financing Fund (the Fund).
- (3) A statement whether, in our opinion, the funding schedule approved by the NDFC is in need of revision in order for the Fund to achieve the estimated amount needed for decommissioning Seabrook Unit #1.

The proposed funding schedule, prepared by the Investment Consultant, Prime, Buchholz & Associates, Inc., has been revised from the schedule approved in the report and order NDFC 2001-1to include (1) actual fund balances as of December 31, 2001, (2) changes in investment elections made by certain Joint Owners, and (4) an assumed cost escalation rate of 5.25.

The following assumptions used in the preparation of the revised funding schedule, as proposed by the North Atlantic, include:

Decommissioning Cost (millions of year 2001 dollars)	\$555.5
Year that Contributions End	2026
Year of Plant Shutdown	2026
Decommissioning Completed	2046
Annual Decommissioning Cost Escalation	5.25%

Mr. Getz Nuclear Decommissioning Financing Committee March 4, 2001 Page 2

The following assumptions, developed by the Investment Consultant, used in the preparation of the proposed funding schedule include:

Annual Consumer Inflation Rate	4.0%
Real Investment Earning Rates:	
Qualified Funds:	
Fund 1-A	3.5% (Pre-tax)
Fund 1-B	6.5% (Pre-tax)
Non-Qualified Funds:	
Fund 2	3.5% (After-tax)
Fund 3	2.0% (After-tax)
Fund 4	0.8% (After-tax)
Fund 5	6.5% (After-tax)
Post-Shutdown	0.8%

The proposed funding schedule is enclosed.

The Managing Agent concurs with (1) the inflation rate estimate, and (2) the estimate of future earnings of the funds as outlined in the attached report "Review of Funding Schedule and Investment Assumptions" prepared by the Investment Consultant dated March 2002. The revised funding schedule, prepared by the Investment Consultant, and presented by the Managing Agent, will achieve the estimated amount needed for decommissioning Seabrook Unit #1 based upon the assumptions described above.

Ted C. Feigenbaum

Executive Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation

The New Hampshire State Treasurer concurs with (1) the inflation estimate, and (2) the estimate of future earnings of the Fund as outlined in the attached report "Review of Funding Schedule and Investment Assumptions" prepared by the Investment Consultant dated March 2002. The revised funding schedule, prepared by the Investment Consultant and presented by the Managing Agent, will achieve the estimated amount needed for decommissioning Scabrook Unit #1 based upon the assumptions described above, but subject to a review of such assumptions and a final decision of the NDFC.

DEPUTY STATE TREASURER\_

New Hampshire State Treasurer's Office

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