



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

August 2, 2011

Peter D. Colosi
Assistant Regional Administrator
for Habitat Conservation
National Marine Fisheries Service
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

**SUBJECT: ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT ASSESSMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF
SEABROOK STATION (TAC NO. ME3959)**

Dear Mr. Colosi:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the enclosed draft Supplement 46 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (GEIS), regarding the license renewal of Seabrook Station, Unit 1 (Seabrook). In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the NRC is requesting initiation of an Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation regarding this proposed action of license renewal. The NRC's EFH Assessment for license renewal of Seabrook is located in Appendix D-1 of the enclosed draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS).

Seabrook is located in the Town of Seabrook, Rockingham County, NH, 2 miles west of the Atlantic Ocean. Seabrook is approximately 2 miles north of the Massachusetts state line, 15 miles south of the Maine state line, and 10 miles south of Portsmouth, NH. Seabrook is equipped with a once-through cooling system that withdraws water from and discharges to the Gulf of Maine.

As described in the EFH Assessment, the NRC staff identified 23 species that have EFH designated in the vicinity of Seabrook. The NRC staff concluded that Seabrook operations are not likely to have an effect or may have a minimal adverse effect on EFH for most species and life stages. The NRC staff concluded that Seabrook operations may have an adverse effect on EFH for all life stages of silver hake and for winter flounder larvae, juveniles, and adults.

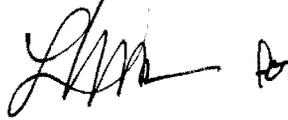
We are requesting initiation of an EFH consultation. In reaching our conclusion, the NRC staff relied on information provided by the applicant, on research performed by NRC staff, and on information from National Marine Fisheries Service. Please note that the period for public comment on the enclosed draft SEIS expires October 26, 2011.

P. Colosi

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If you have any questions regarding the enclosed draft SEIS or EFH Assessment in Appendix D-1 of the SEIS, or the staff's request, please contact Mr. Michael Wentzel, Project Manager, at 301-415-6459 or by e-mail at michael.wentzel@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Wrona", with a small "D" to the right.

David J. Wrona, Chief
Projects Branch 2
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443

cc: w/o enclosure

Distribution: Listserv

P. Colosi

- 2 -

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed draft SEIS or EFH Assessment in Appendix D-1 of the SEIS, or the staff's request, please contact Mr. Michael Wentzel, Project Manager, at 301-415-6459 or by e-mail at michael.wentzel@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA Lisa Regner for/

David J. Wrona, Chief
Projects Branch 2
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443

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Distribution: Listserv

ADAMS Accession Nos.:

1. Letter: ML11126A365
2. *Federal Register* Notice : ML11131A005
3. "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 46": ML11213A024
4. Package: ML11214A026

OFFICE	LA:DLR	PM:RPB1:DLR	OGC	BC:RPB2:DLR
NAME	IKing	MWentzel	MSpencer	DWrona (LRegner for)
DATE	5/11/11	6/7/11	6/8/11	8/2/11

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to P. Colosi from D. Wrona dated August 2, 2011

SUBJECT: ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT ASSESSMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF
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