



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD., Suite 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

June 21, 2018

The Honorable Roberta Pevear
7 River Woods Drive, Apt. D125
Exeter, NH 03833

To the Honorable Roberta Pevear:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to the statement you read at the May 2, 2018, Annual Assessment Meeting for Seabrook Station (Seabrook), which you subsequently sent to NRC Chairman Kristine Svinicki. Additionally, along with your speech, you included an October 2, 2017, letter from you to Chairman Svinicki, which I responded to on November 8, 2017. This response can be accessed from the agency's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML17289A033¹. The May 2, 2018 Annual Assessment Meeting summary can also be found in ADAMS (ML18142A293). Additionally, this addresses your subsequent June 4, 2018, note to Chairman Svinicki in which you provided copies of newspaper opinion pages that printed your May 2, 2018, statement (ML18169A184).

Regarding emergency preparedness, the NRC works with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to ensure that onsite and offsite emergency plans are adequate to ensure protection of public health and safety. NRC provides oversight of onsite emergency response, while the offsite oversight responsibility rests with FEMA. Per the December 2015 memorandum of understanding between NRC and FEMA (ML15344A371), the NRC relies on FEMA to provide a reasonable assurance finding on the adequacy of offsite emergency response programs.

The State of New Hampshire and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have the overall authority for making protective action decisions (sheltering, evacuation, etc.) for ensuring the safety of their citizens during a radiological event. The states' radiological emergency plans are approved by FEMA. FEMA also evaluates the implementation of the State's radiological emergency plan during biennial emergency exercises. The most recent Seabrook exercise was held on April 3, 2018. FEMA's evaluation is documented in a June 6 After-Action Report, which will be available to the public shortly and can be accessed at the NRC webpage at the exercise report link below. NRC staff has communicated with State and local officials from New Hampshire and Massachusetts on this subject, most recently in a May 31 letter to the Newburyport City Council (ML18151A867). A listing of recent correspondence with state and local officials in regards to Seabrook is attached.

¹ Designation refers to an Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number. Documents referenced in this letter are publicly-available using the accession number in ADAMS at <https://adams.nrc.gov/wba/>. For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov.

FEMA exercise reports from previous Seabrook exercises can be found on the NRC webpage at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/emerg-preparedness/related-information/fema-after-action-reports.html>. Additional information on emergency preparedness is available in a fact sheet <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/fact-sheets/emerg-plan-prep-nuc-power.html> and on the NRC webpage at <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/emerg-preparedness/respond-to-emergency.html>.

Regarding your concern with concrete degradation and the alkali-silica reaction (ASR), the NRC staff is aware of the concerns of local citizens and representatives with regard to the ASR issue. As a result, we have had numerous discussions and briefings with State and Congressional officials from New Hampshire and Massachusetts, as well as with members of the public, over the past few years, most recently at the Annual Assessment Meeting. Furthermore, the NRC maintains a site-specific webpage that describes NRC oversight and licensing review activities along with a comprehensive list of documents related to NRC inspection and oversight of Seabrook and concrete structures affected by ASR: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-experience/concrete-degradation.html>.

The NRC continues to carefully and deliberately monitor, assess, and inspect the actions of NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC (NextEra), the plant operator, to resolve the ASR issue. The NRC continues to conduct semi-annual reviews of ASR issues at Seabrook. Our on-going inspections and reviews of NextEra's monitoring activities and evaluations have determined that there are no immediate safety concerns, and that ASR-affected structures at Seabrook remain capable of performing their intended safety functions, as documented in the references at the website link above.

As part of our license renewal review process and our oversight of Seabrook's operations under its current license, the NRC will ensure that the Seabrook Structures Monitoring Program properly assesses the condition of structures affected by ASR to ensure they will continue to perform as intended. These efforts are directed toward ensuring that there is reasonable assurance of safety for continued operation and that aging effects of ASR on safety-related concrete structures at Seabrook will be adequately managed. No regulatory decision has been made on Seabrook's license renewal application. The original safety review schedule has been revised several times to allow a thorough review of the NextEra's proposed plant-specific ASR monitoring program. The current review schedule and the most recent change letter dated March 31, 2016, can be found on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/seabrook.html>.

Lastly, you requested that we investigate claims by Stephen B. Comley, founder of "We the People," and, in particular, convene a public hearing regarding the effectiveness of the evacuation plan for the public surrounding the Seabrook, and his claim of issues of falsified welds during construction and fake parts. We have carefully evaluated and responded to all of Mr. Comley's requests. The most recent is a letter dated May 10, 2018 (ML18130A805) includes an enclosure of all related correspondence with Mr. Comley.

R. C. Pevear

3

Thank you for your interest in these issues. We will continue to provide regular opportunities to address any public concerns regarding Seabrook, including offsite emergency preparedness. If you would like to discuss this further, please feel free to contact Fred Bower, at fred.bower@nrc.gov or (610) 337-5200.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Raymond K. Lorson, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-443
License No. NPF-86
[2018-SST-1462 & 2018-SST-1475]
[LTR-18-0214 and LTR-17-0391]

Enclosure:
Related Correspondence with Mr. Comley
(May 1 to May 31, 2018)

cc w/enclosure
P. Ford, FEMA, Region I
J. Giarusso, MEMA
P. Plummer, NH HSEM

LETTER TO THE HONORABLE ROBERTA C. PEVEAR DATED JUNE 21, 2018

DISTRIBUTION w/encl:

DLew, RA (R1ORAMAIL Res)
 DCollins, DRA (R1ORAMAIL Res)
 RLorson, DRP (R1DRPMAIL Res)
 DPelton, DRP (R1DRPMAIL Res)
 JYerokun, DRS (R1DRSMAIL Res)
 BWellington, DRS (R1DRSMAIL Res)
 MFerdas, DRP
 FBower, DRP
 RBarkley, DRP
 MDraxton, DRP
 SGhrayeb, DRP
 NFloyd, DRS
 PCataldo, DRP, SRI
 PMeier, DRP, RI
 ACass, DRP, Resident AA
 RMcKinley, DRS
 MGray, DRS
 DTiff, ORA
 DScrenci, ORA
 NSheehan, ORA
 JBowen, RI, OEDO
 JPoole, NRR
 BWittick, NRR
 ABuford, NRR
 RKahler, NSIR
 JWeil, OCA
 Chairman Resource
 OEDO Resource
 OIG Resource
 RidsNrrPMSeabrook Resource
 RidsNrrDorlLp1 Resource

Reference: 2018-SST-1462
 2018-SST-1475

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\DRP\BRANCH3\Action Items\2018\2018-SST-1462_Pevar_Evacuation Letter\Pevear Response FINAL.docx
 ADAMS PACKAGE ACCESSION NUMBER: ML18172A219

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available	
OFFICE	RI/DRP	RI/ORA	R1/DRP	R1/DRP	
NAME	MDraxton	DScrenci	FBower	RLorson	
DATE	06/15/18	06/18/18	06/18/18	06/21/18	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Listing of Communications with State and Local Officials in Regards To Seabrook
May 1, 2015 to May 31, 2018

Date	ADAMS #	Addressee
May 31, 2018	ML18151A867	Newburyport City Council
February 21, 2018	ML18052A070	Merrimac Board of Selectmen
January 3, 2018	ML17342A540	Amesbury City Council
January 3, 2018	ML17348B154	Town of Salisbury Massachusetts
November 7, 2017	ML17311A910	Town of Newbury Massachusetts
October 10, 2017	ML17283A235	Town of Georgetown Massachusetts
August 15, 2016	ML16187A274	State Senator Kathleen O'Connor Ives et al
April 12, 2016	ML16103A473	Amesbury City Council
May 21, 2015	ML15141A200	Massachusetts Senate
May 21, 2015	ML15141A187	Massachusetts House of Representatives