

DCS

MAR 23 1994

Docket No. 50-443

Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum
Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation
Post Office Box 300
Seabrook, New Hampshire 03874

Dear Mr. Feigenbaum:

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-443/94-03

This letter transmits the report of the safety inspection findings of the resident staff at Seabrook Station for the period of January 19 through February 28, 1994. The inspection consisted of document reviews, personnel interviews, and observations of activities important to the health and safety of the public. The inspector discussed the findings with Mr. B. Drawbridge and other members of your staff after the inspection.

Overall, this inspection found that activities were conducted safely. The inspection identified one violation of regulatory requirements, which involved ineffective corrective actions to address problems arising during quarterly surveillance testing of your main steam isolation valves (MSIVs). Over the course of the past year, several conditions adverse to the quality and performance of the MSIVs have either been found or were self-exhibited during the conduct of required testing. While these problems have not rendered the MSIVs inoperable, they do have a relevance to safety-related components and have particular significance in representing how your organization approaches complex technical issues where the root cause is not readily evident. Although your staff has responded well to investigate the MSIV problems since the plant trip on January 25, we are concerned that your root cause analysis and corrective action programs were not able to implement more timely and effective corrective measures to past similar events. This resulted in an additional plant transient, further challenging the station and operators.

The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation. You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. Thank you for your cooperation.

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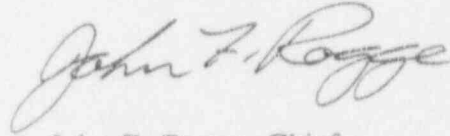
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Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum

2

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRCs "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,



John F. Rogge, Chief
Projects Section No. 4B
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report No. 50-443/94-03

cc w/encls:

B. L. Drawbridge, Executive Director of Nuclear Production
W. DiProfio, Station Manager
R. Hallisey, Director, Dept. of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
S. Woodhouse, Legislative Assistant
T. Rapone, Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety
D. Tefft, Administrator, Bureau of Radiological Health, State of New Hampshire
F. Bower, III, DRS
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
K. Abraham, PAO (2)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Hampshire, SLO
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee
Seabrook Service List

Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum

3

bcc w/encls:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

J. Rogge, DRP

bcc w/encls (VIA E-MAIL):

V. McCree, OEDO

A. DeAgazio, PD I-4, NRR

J. Stolz, PD I-4, NRR

M. Shannon, NRR/ILPB

RI:DRP

Cerne/gcb

W
3/21/94

RI:DRP

Rogge

J
3/23/94

SEABROOK SERVICE LIST

Thomas Dignan, Esquire
John A. Ritscher, Esquire
Ropes and Gray
One International Place
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2624

Mr. J. F. Opeka
Northeast Utilities
P. O. Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Mr. A. David Rodham, Director
Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
400 Worcester Road, Box 1496
Framingham, Massachusetts 01701-0134
ATTN: Mr. James B. Muckerheide
State Nuclear Engineer

Robert Backus, Esquire
Backus, Meyer and Solomon
116 Lowell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03106

Mr. T. L. Harpster
North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation
Post Office Box 300
Seabrook, New Hampshire 03874

Seacoast Anti-Pollution League
5 Market Street
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

Mr. David W. Graham
Fuel Supply Planning Manager
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale
Electric Company
P. O. Box 426
Ludlow, Massachusetts 01056

Gerald Garfield, Esquire
Day, Berry and Howard
City Place
Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3499

Diane Curran, Esquire
Harmon and Weiss
2001 S Street, N.W.
Suite 430
Washington, D.C. 20009

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

John P. Arnold, Attorney General
G. Dana Bisbee, Associate Attorney
General
Attorney General's Office
25 Capitol Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Mr. R. M. Kacich
Northeast Utilities Service Company
P. O. Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
20th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Town of Exeter
10 Front Street
Exeter, New Hampshire 03823

Stephen G. Burns, Director
Office of Commission Appellate
Adjudication
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Board of Selectmen
Town of Amesbury
Town Hall
Amesbury, Massachusetts 01913

Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Seabrook Nuclear Power Station
Post Office Box 1149
Seabrook, New Hampshire 03874

Jane Spector
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
825 North Capital Street, N.E.
Room 8105
Washington, D.C. 20426

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

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
Panel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Peter Brann
Assistant Attorney General
State House, Station #6
Augusta, Maine 04333

Adjudicatory File (2)
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Docket
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Jack Dolan
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Region I
J.W. McCormack Post Office and
Courthouse Building, Room 442
Boston, Massachusetts 02109