

MAY 02 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. 50-443/94-05

This letter transmits the report of the safety inspection findings of the resident staff at Seabrook Station for the period of March 1 through April 11, 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 you and other members of your staff after the inspection.

Overall, this inspection found that activities were conducted safely. During this inspection, three noteworthy examples that reflect a safety conscious approach towards plant operations were observed in practice, as follows. Your staff demonstrated a good appreciation for safety priorities and risk avoidance by proactively shutting down the unit in a controlled manner, rather than attempting to cope with a known equipment deficiency. Thus, the potential risk associated with a procedurally mandated, rapid power reduction that could have led to reactor trip was avoided. Additionally, your decision to perform a full core off-load before entering into mid-loop reactor coolant system conditions is recognized as a safety significant approach to reducing shutdown risks during a refuel outage. The incorporation by operations management of the refueling operations lessons learned at other facilities into your own refuel and planned evolution training is also noteworthy. Collectively, your staff's approach to these activities, along with the use of PRA methodologies to reduce shutdown risk, has contributed to maximizing the defense-in-depth reactor safety concept at Seabrook Station.

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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. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report No. 50-443/94-05

cc w/encl:

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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

Public Document Room (PDR)

Local Public Document Room (LPDR)

Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)

K. Abraham, PAO (29) SALP Reports and (2) All Inspection Reports

NRC Resident Inspector

State of New Hampshire, SLO

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee

Seabrook Service List

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Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum

3

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

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2

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