UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKETED

ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING APPEAL BOARD 91 JAN -8 A10:19

Administrative Judges:

G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Chairman Alan S. Rosenthal Howard A. Wilber

January 7, 1991 (ALAB-943)

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In the Matter of

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, et al.

(Seabrook Station, Units 1 and 2)

Docket Nos. 50-443-OL 50-444-OL (Offsite Emergency Flanning Issues)

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

In ALAB-924, on review of LBP-88-32, we remanded four issues to the Licensing Board in this operating license proceeding involving the Seabrook nuclear facility: need for letters of agreement (LOAs) with school personnel; sufficiency of the special needs survey for the New Hampshire portion of the Seabrook plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone (EPZ); effect of adv ced life support (ALS) patient preparation on evacuation time estimates (ETEs); and the adequacy of beach sheltering implementation. Thereafter, in LBP-90-12, the Licensing Board both undertook to resolve the LOA and special needs

^{1 30} KRC 331 (1989), petitions for review pending.

² 28 NRC 667 (1988).

^{3 31} NRC 427 (1990).

survey issues and addressed (without resolving) the ALS patient and beach sheltering issues.

In ALAB-933, on the motions of the applicants and the NRC staff we dismissed appeals taken by various intervenors from LBP-90-12. This action was founded on an application of the standard of appealability set forth many years ago in the <u>Davis-Besse</u> proceeding:

The test of "finality" for appeal purposes before this agency (as in the courts) is essentially a practical one. As a general matter, a licensing board's action is final for appellate purposes where it either disposes of at least a major segment of the case or terminates a party's right to participate; rulings which do neither are interlocutory.

As we saw it, LBP-90-12 did not dispose of a "major segment" of this proceeding.

We now have before us a new notice of appeal filed jointly by intervenors Massachusetts Attorney General (MassAG) and the New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution (NECNP). This notice addresses the Licensing Board's December 18, 1990, memorandum and order (LBP-90-44), in which the Board granted the applicants' motion for summary disposition on the ALS patient issue. In addition, the

^{4 31} NRC 491 (1990).

⁵ Toledo Edison Co. (Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station), ALAB-300, 2 NRC 752, 758 (1975) (footnotes omitted).

^{6 32} NRC ___ (1990).

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notice references those portions of LBP-90-12 that relate to the ALS patient and special needs survey issues.

Although the issuance of LBP-90-44 was apparently the genesis of intervenors' new appeal, the requisite finality was not achieved with the rendition of that decision. Of the issues remanded in ALAB-924, there still remains for Licensing Board disposition the beach sheltering matter. As suggested in ALAB-933, there is no good reason why that sheltering issue should receive appellate review apart from the three other matters that ALAB-924 returned to the Licensing Board.

The Licensing Board that issued LBP-90-44 was constituted separately from the "offsite" Board that issued LBP-88-32. See 55 Fed. Reg. 47,411 (1990). In this instance, we find this administrative action of no consequence in analyzing whether the Board's determination on the ALS patient issue is "final" so as to be reviewable now.

In ALAB-939, 32 NRC 165, 179-80 (1990), in response to questions referred by the Licensing Board we directed that the Board take any necessary steps to ensure that the record is clear with regard to several matters concerning sheltering for the beach population under the New Hampshire emergency plan. By orders dated November 14 and 26, 1990, the Licensing Board requested that the parties provide their views relative to these matters and indicated that the subject will be taken up at a prehearing conference now scheduled for January 23, 1991.

^{9 31} NRC at 498. In ALAB-933, id. at 496-97, we also were confronted with the question of whether the Licensing Board's dismissal of one intervenor from further participation regarding the remanded issues fulfilled the Davis-Besse criterion of termination of a party's right to participate, and found that the Board's action was then reviewable. That finality yardstick is not implicated in this instance.

In this connection, it is significant that, as above noted, each of the four issues subject to remand was initially ruled upon in LBP-88-32, the Licensing Board decision concerned generally with the adequacy of the emergency plan for the New Hampshire portion of the EPZ. In other words, all of them are New Hampshire emergency planning issues and, as such, appropriate for appellate consideration as part of an entity comprising a "major segment" of the case. 10 Accordingly, any intervenor appeal concerning the Licensing Board's resolution in LBP-90-44 and LBP-90-12 of certain remanded issues must await a final determination of all the remanded matters associated with that major segment. 11

¹⁰ In reviewing LBP-88-32, in addition to the four issues returned to the Licensing Board in ALAB-924, in ALAB-932, 31 NRC 371, 418-20 (15), we also remanded an issue concerning the colculation of the ETEs utilized for the New Hampshire portion of the EPZ. It is our understanding, however, that in response to this remand the calculations have been revised and incorporated in the New Hampshire emercency plan. See Letter from T. Feigenbaum to NRC Document Control Desk (Aug. 15, 1990) (forwarding revised ETEs).

[&]quot;The same analysis would apply with respect to the various issues that may be subject to remand in the course of our consideration (as yet uncompleted) of another major case segment, the Massachusetts emergency planning and June 1988 full participation exercise matters on review relative to the Licensing Board's determinations in LBP-89-32, 30 NRC 375 (1989), and related orders

For the foregoing reasons, the joint appeal by the MassAG and NECNP from the Licensing Board's December 18, 1990 memorandum and order, LBP-90-44, 32 NRC ____, and its May 3, 1990 memorandum and order, LBP-90-12, 31 NRC 427, is dismissed as premature.

It is so ORDERED.

FOR THE APPEAL BOARD

Lucille Williams Secretary to the Appeal Board

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, ET AL. (Seabrook Station, Units 1 and 2)

Docket No. (*) 50-443/444-DL

CERTIFICATE OF BERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing AB M&D (ALAB-943) DTD 1/7/91 have been served upon the following persons by U.S. mail, first class, except as otherwise noted and in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Sec. 2.712.

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