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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION *83 MAR 21 AND:12
BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, et al.

(Seabrook Station, Units 1 and 2)

Docket Nos. 50-443 50-444

NECNP MOTION TO RELOCATE PREHEARING CONFERENCE TO SEABROOK AREA

On March 16, 1983, the Licensing Board issued an order setting a prehearing conference for April 7 and 8, 1983, at the U.S. Tax Court in Boston, Massachusetts. The subjects of the prehearing conference include technical contentions and emergency planning. NECNP objects to the location of the prehearing conference at such a distance from the Seabrook plant site, and moves that it be relocated to the Seabrook area.

It is neither fair nor consistent with Commission practice to hold a prehearing conference fifty miles from the area where the affected public resides. NECNP has numerous members in the Seabrook area, many of who live only a few miles from the plant. See NECNP Petition to Intervene, filed November 18, 1981. As members of an Intervenor organization, they have a vested interest in observing the conduct of th Seabrook licensing proceedings.



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Furthermore, the Seabrook licensing hearings constitute the only public forum in which the public can influence and become aware of the safety issues which will affect them as long as the plant is in operation. The public interest in observing these licensing proceedings is particularly high where the issues discussed relate to emergency planning—a process which every local citizen will be required to understand and participate in. In this case, where a FEMA representative is being asked by the Board to discuss emergency planning for the localities surrounding the Seabrook plant, the residents of those towns have a special interest in attending the hearing. Those people without access to transportation or the time to drive to Boston will be effectively barred from the hearing.

Finally, local residents of the Seabrook area, including members of NECNP, are entitled to a reasonably accessible hearing location. NRC regulations require that licensing hearings be "public." 10 C.F.R. §2.751. This guarantee is hardly meaningful where the people who are most affected by the issuance of the license must travel long distances and therefore may be prevented from attending the hearings.

For the foregoing reasons, NECNP moves that the April 7 and 8 prehearing conference be moved to a location within approximately ten miles of the Seabrook site, and that all future hearings be conducted at a location within that distance from the site.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATED: March 18, 1983

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on March 18, 1983, cories of NECNP Motion to Extend Emergency Planning Discovery Deadline and NECNP Motion to Relocate Prehearing Conference to Sectook Area were sent by first class mail to the following:

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