

50-443



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 24, 1996

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - APPLICATIONS OF RELAP5YA TO SUPPORT
SEABROOK STATION OPERATION

Dear Mr. Feigenbaum:

In early December 1995, the NRC received allegations against Yankee Atomic Electric Company (YAEC) and Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (Maine Yankee) relating to certain YAEC activities while acting as an agent of Maine Yankee. As a result of the NRC investigation and technical review relating to the allegations, the NRC concluded, in part, that the application of YAEC's proprietary computer code RELAP5YA for analysis of small break loss of cooling accidents (SBLOCA) is not adequate to demonstrate compliance with 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50. The staff concluded, further, that the code was not applied in a manner conforming to the stipulations specified in the staff's Safety Evaluation dated January 30, 1989, which conditionally approved the use of RELAP5YA for Maine Yankee.

We are aware that the current LOCA analyses of record for Seabrook were performed by Westinghouse using Westinghouse computer codes as documented in North Atlantic License Amendment Request 93-18 dated November 23, 1993. Therefore, we have no concerns relating to compliance with 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K at Seabrook. We are concerned, however, that RELAP5YA may have been used for other applications which may affect the performance of systems, structures, or components important to safety. Therefore, you are requested to identify and describe any application where RELAP5YA is relied upon for Seabrook operation. For each application, please describe your determination of operability--as defined in Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1 Technical Specifications--of affected structures, systems and components. Please identify those plant procedures required by the Seabrook Technical Specifications that rely upon RELAP5YA analyses for operator action, and your determination if the affected operator action continues to be appropriate. Please provide your response by February 29, 1996.

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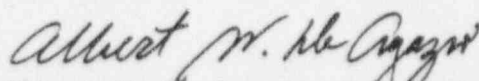
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Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum

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The requirements of this letter affect nine or fewer respondents, and therefore, are not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under P.L. 96-511.

Sincerely,



Albert W. De Agazio, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate I-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443
Serial No. SEA-96-001

cc: See next page

The requirements of this letter affect nine or fewer respondents, and therefore, are not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under P.L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Albert W. De Agazio, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate I-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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T. Feigenbaum
North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation

Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1

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