

December 28, 1995

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

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-443/95-13

Dear Mr. Feigenbaum:

From October 3, 1995 through November 13, 1995, Messrs. J. Macdonald and D. Mannai of this office conducted a resident inspector safety inspection at the Seabrook Station, Seabrook, New Hampshire. Areas relevant to the health and safety of the public examined during this inspection are described in the enclosed report. Our findings were based upon observations of performance and independent evaluations of safety systems and quality records. The preliminary results were discussed with Mr. Diproffio and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

This report contains inspection findings of the resident inspection staff as well as findings from other inspections which were performed during the time period indicated. The findings from inspectors other than the resident inspectors are provided as attachments to this report with a separate cover which details areas inspected and includes the signatures of the lead inspector and the cognizant branch chief. The overall conclusions will be reflected in the Executive Summary for the complete report. We are taking this approach to better integrate our inspection findings into a consistent regulatory message and more clearly communicate how these findings may reflect a change in your performance.

During the period members of your staff operated and maintained the plant in a safe and effective manner. Our inspectors found operators did not fully question and understand plant conditions surrounding an unexpected indicated thermal power decrease, nor did they consult with appropriate technical groups prior to increasing reactor thermal power. Consequently actual maximum reactor thermal power was exceeded following on-line steam flow transmitter calibration activities. The event also indicated a weakness in the performance of on-line maintenance. We understand that actions are being taken to address both performance issues.

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

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Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum

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No reply to this report is necessary, and your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

John F. Rogge, Chief
Projects Branch No. 8
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-443

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report No. 50-443/95-13

cc w/encl:

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee
L. M. Cuoco, Esquire, Northeast Utilities
W. DiProfio, Station Manager
B. L. Drawbridge, Executive Director of Nuclear Production
R. Hallisey, Director, Dept. of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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D. Tefft, Administrator, Bureau of Radiological Health, State of New Hampshire
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Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum

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