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New England Telephone

A NYNEX Company

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Mr. Anthony Callendrello
N. H. Yankee
Seabrook Station
P. O. Box 300
Seabrook, N. H. 03874

Anthony,

Let me begin by saying it is very difficult to define a "What if" situation. Please keep in mind that we are talking about something which has never occurred, so the only information that is available presently is an assumption that the worse will occur.

In the event of a radiological emergency at Seabrook, the potential impact to our Central Offices in the Seabrook area would vary based on the number of calls generated by area customers. The Central Offices, which are nothing more than a large computer, can process thousands of calls in any given hour. The worse case scenario would occur if everyone in an office picked up the telephone simultaneously to originate a call. This scenario would result in some customers having to wait. The length of time would be determined by the telephone network conditions and switching machine load. In any event, because the Central Office computer processes calls in milliseconds, some customers may wait a few minutes for dial tone. Again, this is if everyone tries to originate a call at the same time.

In regards to Line Load Control, our policy is to serve customers and provide access to the network. When this network becomes over loaded, priority is given to essential services. This feature called "Dynamic Service Protection" is designed to protect certain lines with priority status during extended overloads. Dynamic Service Protection does not deny service to any line. It merely gives essential customers such as Fire, Police, and Medical providers priority service while other customers are served as rapidly as equipment becomes available.

I hope the information I have provided answers your questions on how New England Telephone provides service protection for essential customers in the event of a radiological emergency.

Berton F. Smith
Berton Smith
Operations Manager

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