



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

April 25, 1988

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The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey:

This responds to your letter of March 3, 1988, in which you requested an investigation of drug and alcohol-related matters at the Seabrook nuclear power plant. I can assure you that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is both aware of and concerned about allegations of drug and alcohol use at the Seabrook site. The NRC investigates allegations related to substance abuse at any nuclear power plant when they are reported to us. Our primary responsibility, however, is to ensure that the plant is constructed in a safe manner and does not pose a threat to public health and safety. Illegal behavior of on-site personnel is of concern to the NRC to the extent it affects construction or operation of the licensed facility.

The NRC staff has been aware of many of the allegations concerning drug and alcohol use during construction of Seabrook. In particular, the staff of our Region I office has been aware of the concrete testing company allegations since September 1987, and is still investigating this matter. The staff has also carefully reviewed your recent investigation report and found no new issues that had not already been considered in the staff's overall conclusion on construction quality at Seabrook.

NRC expects its licensees to have a vigorous fitness-for-duty program and to strive for a drug-free work site, but we do not rely exclusively on such a program to ensure that a plant has been constructed safely. The NRC requires each licensee to have a comprehensive quality assurance program to find and correct construction deficiencies from any cause, including possible worker fitness-related causes. We verify the effectiveness of the licensee's quality assurance program through frequent, detailed, on-site inspections throughout the construction period. In addition, NRC sends its own team of experts to make independent measurements of the quality of welds, concrete, and other construction items. More than 26,000 hours of NRC inspection have been expended at Seabrook, and it is primarily on the basis of that independent inspection effort that we have concluded that the Seabrook plant has been constructed safely.

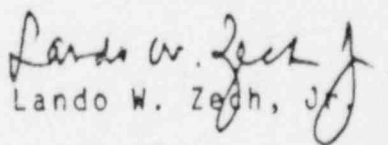
Originated: NRR:Nerses

8805030427 880425
PDR COMMS NRCC
CORRESPONDENCE PDR

You raised a concern about the licensee's compliance with the reporting requirements of 10 CFR Part 21. For plants under construction, the licensee is required to report situations where there are safety deficiencies that meet the definitions of 10 CFR Part 50.55(e) or 10 CFR Part 21. In making such reports, the licensee is required to identify the defects and the root cause for such defects. Should there be a connection of the defect with drug use, the licensee would be obligated to identify such use as contributing to the cause of such defects. The staff has requested the licensee to provide answers to a series of questions developed in coordination with our Office of Investigations (see enclosed letter). In its reply, we expect that the licensee will also address the specific recommendations contained in your report.

We will keep you informed of the progress and results of our examination of this matter.

Sincerely,


Lando W. Zech, Jr.

Enclosure:
As Stated

cc: The Honorable Morris K. Udall
The Honorable Philip R. Sharp



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

March 18, 1988

Docket No. 50-443

Public Service Company of New Hampshire
ATTN: Mr. Robert J. Harrison
President and Chief Executive Officer
Post Office Box 330
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105

Gentlemen:

As an enclosure to a letter dated January 28, 1988 from Congressman Edward J. Markey to Chairman Zech, the NRC was provided a copy of an Investigative Report, entitled "Drug and Alcohol Use at the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant." We understand that a copy of this report was provided to you by separate correspondence from the Congressman. Certain specific allegations, provided as part of the Investigative Report, have already been reviewed and inspected during the conduct of separate NRC activities to investigate allegations raised by the Employee's Legal Project (Reference: Region I Inspection Report Nos. 50-443/86-52 and 50-443/87-07). Nevertheless, I feel it is appropriate for you to formally provide NRC with your comments on the six recommendations contained in the report.

I therefore request that you provide to me within sixty days, in accordance with the routine correspondence requirements for the Seabrook docket, the information requested in the preceding paragraph. You should also feel free to elaborate upon any specific issues that you have determined to be particularly pertinent in your assessment of the conclusions of the Investigative Report. Additionally, to establish a clear and concise record on the docket regarding drug and alcohol abuse issues at Seabrook, you are requested to provide answers to the specific questions listed in the enclosure to this letter.

We recognize that the answers to certain of those questions may have been provided already to Congressmen Markey and Sharp in response to formal Congressional requests. If you determine that such duplication exists, you may copy and provide reference to such records, as appropriate.

The information requested in this letter should aid the staff in its continuing review of activities conducted at the Seabrook Station. Your cooperation with us in this effort is appreciated.

Sincerely,

W. T. Russell

William T. Russell
Regional Administrator

~~8803240367~~ 3pp

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl:

E. A. Brown, President and Chief Executive Officer, New Hampshire Yankee

T. C. Feigenbaum, Vice President, Engineering and Quality Programs

W. J. Hall, Regulatory Services Manager

D. E. Moody, Station Manager

P. W. Agnes, Assistant Secretary of Public Safety, Commonwealth of
Massachusetts

Employee's Legal Project

Public Document Room (PDR)

Local Public Document Room (LPDR)

Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)

NRC Resident Inspector

State of New Hampshire

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Seabrook Hearing Service List

ENCLOSURE

The following questions are asked for the purpose of developing a complete record on each specific subject being addressed. The responses should be structured not only to apprise the NRC of the specific answer to each question, but also to provide a discussion of any pertinent licensee policies and positions on these matters.

1. With regard to all drug and alcohol incidents which have been identified at Seabrook Station since the commencement of construction, what evaluative processes were used to analyze the potential impact of each incident on plant construction quality? In particular, describe any differences which exist between the evaluation processes for incidents identified after 1982, for which records are available, and those applied to incidents identified prior to 1982 for which records are unavailable. Describe whether documented programs exist for the technical dispositioning of those incidents identified and provide a detailed bases, either specific or general, for your determination that construction quality was not adversely affected.
2. How were specific incidents of drug and alcohol problems evaluated to determine if a basis existed for reporting these matters pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55(e) and 10 CFR 21? How were such incidents also evaluated for reportability as an ASLB Board Notification during the current and previous licensing processes?
3. What was the reason for the termination of the Pittsburgh Testing Laboratory contract at Seabrook Station in March 1986? Explain the chronology and relation of this termination to subsequent PTL employee grievances and arbitrator rulings. Discuss any other specific problems that have been encountered in attempting to enforce project rules on drug and alcohol use at Seabrook Station and subsequent actions taken.
4. What objective evidence is available to provide assurance of site concrete quality, given the allegations raised in regard to suspected drug usage at the PTL laboratory? Explain in detail the scope of PTL activities at Seabrook and to what extent the PTL testing functions with regard to construction quality were checked or duplicated by other independent means or personnel.
5. On November 24, 1986, in response to a series of questions from Representative Markey, the NRC reported that it had been apprised by PSNH and others of nine cases of drug or alcohol related allegations at Seabrook.
 - a. Was PSNH aware of the details of the November 24, 1986 NRC response? If so, when did PSNH become aware? If PSNH was aware, what actions were taken to inform NRC that many other specific cases of drug/alcohol abuse at Seabrook had been investigated by PSNH?
 - b. Describe the efforts that were undertaken to assure NRC was provided complete and accurate information regarding drug/alcohol abuse at Seabrook. Include in this answer, a chronology of the relevant notifications/communications made and indicate to whom the notifications/communications were provided.



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

ACTION

EDO PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

FROM:
REP. EDWARD J. MARKEY

DUE: 03/16/88

EDO CONTROL: 003546
DOC DT: 03/03/88
FINAL REPLY:

TO:
CHAIRMAN ZECH

FOR SIGNATURE OF:
CHAIRMAN

**** PRIORITY ****

SECY NO: 88-174

DESC:
ALLEGATIONS OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE DURING THE
CONSTRUCTION OF SEABROOK

ROUTING:

STELLO
TAYLOR
REHM
RUSSELL
HAYES
MURRAY

DATE: 03/05/88
ASSIGNED TO: NRR CONTACT: MURLEY

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

REF. EDO 3458

NRR RECEIVED: M RCH 7, 1988

ACTION: DRPR:VARGA

NRR ROUTING: MURLEY/SNIEZEK
MIRAGLIA
MARTIN
GILLESPIE
MOSSBURG

ACTION
DUE TO NRR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
BY March 14, 1988

