

JUDD GREGG
NEW HAMPSHIRE

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COMMITTEES:

BUDGET

APPROPRIATIONS

LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2904

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September 4, 1998

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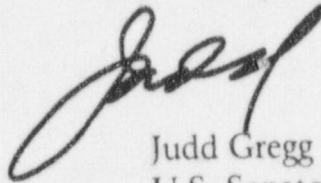
The Honorable Shirley A. Jackson, Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Shirley:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter from a constituent of mine, Robert Backus, Esq., of Manchester, NH, who is representing the Seacoast Anti-Pollution League. On behalf of the Seacoast Anti-Pollution League, he has filed four contentions with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and is requesting a full hearing on this matter in the NH Seacoast area.

I would appreciate your consideration and attentiveness to this matter. Thank you in advance for your prompt reply.

Sincerely,



Judd Gregg
U.S. Senator

JG/rmj
Enclosure

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PDR ADOCK 05000443
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ALSO ADMITTED
TO MASSACHUSETTS BAR
AND MAINE BAR
—
OF COURSE—
ROBERT A. BACKUS
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JON MEYER
STEVEN A. SOLOMON
JENNIFER ROOD
B. J. BRANCH
DARIN HOOD TUCKER

August 5, 1998

Honorable Judd Gregg
United State Senate
Washington, DC 20510

This is to advise you that, since my last correspondence, the client I represent, the Seacoast Anti-Pollution League has joined with another citizen organization, the New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution, and filed four contentions with the NRC concerning the exemption request. These concerns are set forth in the June 5, 1998 letter to Chairman Jackson which was copied to you. The concerns, briefly, are: first, the substantial decrease in inspections of the steam generator tubes; second, the additional stress on the fuel cladding from extending the operational run by 33% to two years; third, the increased use of on line maintenance that extending the operational run will require, and, fourth, the decreased surveillance opportunity to find and correct abnormal plant condition, including possible tampering with safety important equipment.

At this time, the NRC has appointed a three person Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, which is the equivalent of a trial court for the agency. The Board has established a deadline of August 10, 1998 for the licensee, NAESCO, and the NRC staff to respond to the contentions.

Thereafter, I expect the Board was schedule a pre-hearing conference before ruling on the admissibility of the contentions.

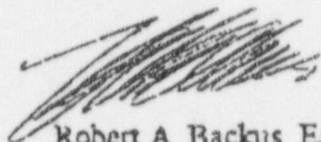
We believe these contentions present important safety issues and that the goal of the exemption request is to improve the economics of the plant in the face of oncoming competition, but at the cost of reducing the present margin of safety.

We would like your support for a full hearing into these contentions, and that any proceedings on these contentions be held in the NH seacoast area. In the past, as you know, the NRC has held hearings on Seabrook in NH, and we think this practice should be continued since this is the area of concern

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If you need any further information,

please let me know.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robert A. Rackus', written in a cursive style with some overlapping strokes.

Robert A. Rackus, Esq.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

NORTH ATLANTIC ENERGY SERVICE
CORPORATION
(Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1)

Docket No.(s) 50-443-LA-2

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing HOYLE LTR TO SENATOR GREGG have been served upon the following persons by U.S. mail, first class, except as otherwise noted and in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Sec. 2.712.

Office of Commission Appellate
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge
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Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop - T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge
Charles N. Kelber
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
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Administrative Judge
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Washington, DC 20005

Docket No.(s)50-443-LA-2
HOYLE LTR TO SENATOR GREGG

Dated at Rockville, Md. this
25 day of September 1998

Adria T. Byrdson
Office of the Secretary of the Commission