

**North  
Atlantic**

North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation  
P.O. Box 300  
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(603) 474-9521

The Northeast Utilities System

November 3, 1998

LIC-98513

AR #98019312

Mr. Scott Sandorf  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Region  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 02173

Seabrook Station  
Seal Skull Discovered—October 27, 1998

North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (North Atlantic) hereby reports the discovery of a seal skull at Seabrook Station. The skull was removed from Seabrook Station's wash debris on October 27, 1998. North Atlantic notified the National Marine Fisheries Service of this discovery by telephone<sup>1</sup>. The seal skull was sent to the New England Aquarium in order to determine the species and approximate age of the seal.

This report is made in response to the National Marine Fisheries Service letter dated January 5, 1995<sup>2</sup>, recommending that North Atlantic report seal entrapment incidents. The attached seal entrapment incident report is enclosed as requested.

North Atlantic submitted an application for a Small Take Exemption Permit on June 13, 1997<sup>3</sup> for the incidental taking of seals pursuant to Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act and in accordance with 50 CFR 216.104.

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- <sup>1</sup> Notification of Seal Skull Discovery, Telephone Notification by R. Sher (North Atlantic) to S. Sandorf (NMFS) on October 27, 1998.
  - <sup>2</sup> National Marine Fisheries Service letter dated January 5, 1995, Mr. Chris Mantzaris (NMFS) to R. Jeb DeLoach (North Atlantic).
  - <sup>3</sup> North Atlantic Letter, LIC-97102, "Small Take Exemption Permit," from T. Feigenbaum (North Atlantic) to R. Schmitten (NMFS).


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If you have additional questions, please contact me at (603) 773-7762.

Very truly yours,

NORTH ATLANTIC ENERGY SERVICE CORP.



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John B. Hart  
Environmental Compliance Manager

cc (with Enclosure)

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**SEABROOK STATION  
SEAL SKULL DISCOVERY REPORT  
OCTOBER 27, 1998**

Site of Entrapments and Date of Initial Observation (Recovery Date):                      Screen wash debris following wash of Circulating Water and Service Water System (October 27, 1998).

Species Identification:                                              To be determined by the New England Aquarium.

Description/Condition of Seal:                                      Upper portion of skull.

Reporter:                                                                      Ron Sher, Senior Scientist

Last Seal Observation:                                              Three harbor seals were recovered on October 8 (2) and 10, 1998. An incident report was submitted to the NMFS<sup>4</sup>.

1. Seal (10/8 #1) - 75 lbs, juvenile male, 100 cm. long
2. Seal (10/8 #2) - 45 lbs, young-of-year female, 86 cm. long
3. Seal (10/10/98 - 50 lbs, young-of-year female, 85 cm. long

Recent Fish Impingement:                                              Date of entrapment not could not be estimated, therefore, fish impingement at time of entrapment could not be determined.

Cooling Water Intake Temperature at Approximate Time of Entrapments:                                              Date of entrapment not could not be estimated, therefore, intake water temperature at time of entrapment could not be determined.

Plant Power Level at Time of Entrapment:                                              Seabrook Station had been operating at 100 percent for the previous 109 days.

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<sup>4</sup> North Atlantic letter LIC-98493, dated October 19, 1998, "Seal Entrapments—October 5, 8 and 10, 1998," J. Hart (North Atlantic) to S. Sandorf (NMFS)