

CORDON J. HUMPHREY
NEW HAMPSHIRE

6398

111 MAINT SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
(603) 224-2841
NEW HAMPSHIRE TOLL FREE NUMBER
1-800-852-2714

DOCKET NUMBER 30-443/444 -06/06-1
FOOD & UTIL. FAC.

COMMITTEES
ARMED SERVICES
JUDICIARY
LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURC

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
May 18, 1988

'88 MAY 23 P3:26

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
DOCKETING SERVICE
BRANCH

Mr. Lando W. Zech, Jr.
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

SERVED MAY 23 1988

Dear Mr. Zech:

I am disturbed by reports that the Seabrook nuclear power plant contains carbon steel piping of questionable quality. According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, Seabrook is one of several nuclear plants which used piping supplied by Piping Supplies, Inc. or West Jersey Manufacturing Company, two firms which falsified documentation claiming that commercial-grade, foreign steel meets the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code and the NRC design specification criteria.

How does the fact that the NRC cannot determine the quality of these pipe fittings and flanges affect the licensing proceedings in regard to low power licensing for Seabrook?

What is the status of the NRC's investigation as to why the records for this piping, some of which is used in important safety-related systems, were forged and why this discrepancy did not come to light sooner?

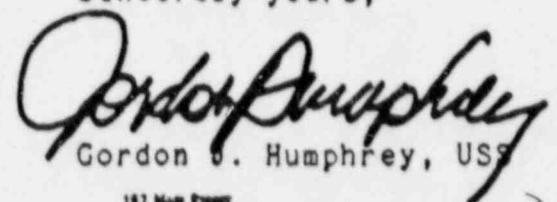
What actions have been required by the NRC in order to ensure that the piping used in construction of the Seabrook plant meets the ASME Code and NRC standards?

Please provide answers to these questions and keep me fully apprised of any additional information on the suspect fittings and flanges. I am concerned with potential safety problems posed by use of faulty or low-grade materials in the construction of Seabrook.

I appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Gordon J. Humphrey, US

8806080034 880518
PDR ADDOCK 05000443
G PDR

DS02