

November 20, 1997

Mr. T. C. Feigenbaum  
Executive Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer  
North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation  
c/o Mr. Terry L. Harpster  
PO Box 300  
Seabrook NH 03874

SUBJECT: NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-443/97-06

Dear Mr. Feigenbaum:

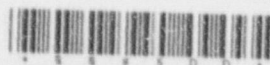
On October 4, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection at Seabrook Station. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the seven-week inspection period covered by this report (8/16/97 - 10/4/97), the conduct of activities at Seabrook Station was generally characterized by safe and conservative operations and decision making. Operators successfully stabilized reactor power at a lower level in response to an event in which the "A" main feed pump (MFP) governor valve oscillated heavily and the rod control system failed to insert control rods. The maintenance and engineering departments responded well and provided good support when several throughwall leaks were identified in the circulating water piping.

Two examples of a procedural adherence violation were identified. The first example involved instrumentation and controls (I&C) technicians who failed to reland an electrical lead during troubleshooting on the "A" main feed pump (MFP) that allowed the MFP to be reassembled and tested with the electrical trip capability defeated. The inspector noted several performance problems that collectively contributed to this violation including a failure to self-check and maintain a questioning attitude, an inadequate procedure, poor configuration control during the maintenance activity and the procedural adherence deficiency. The second example involved the failure to properly evaluate replacement springs for the nitrogen line fill check valves to the "C" and "D" safety injection accumulators. This deficiency was discovered and corrected following a self-disclosing event where the "C" safety accumulator fill check valve failed to operate.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. After reviewing your response to the Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

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Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96-511. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

**Original Signed By:**

Richard J. Conte, Chief  
Projects Branch 8

Docket No. 50-443  
License No: NPF-86

Enclosure: 1. Notice of Violation  
2. NRC Inspection Report No. 50-443/97-06

cc w/encl:

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F. C. Rothen, Vice President - Work Services  
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W. A. DiProffio, Nuclear Unit Director - Seabrook Station  
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W. D. Meinert, Nuclear Engineer  
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D. McElhinney, RAC Chairman, FEMA RI, Boston, Mass  
R. Backus, Esquire, Backus, Meyer and Solomon, New Hampshire  
D. P. Forbes, Director, Nuclear Safety, Massachusetts Emergency  
Management Agency  
F. W. Getman, Jr., Vice President and General Counsel - Great Bay Power  
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee  
R. Hallisey, Director, Dept. of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Seacoast Anti-Pollution League  
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Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum

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