

**North
Atlantic**

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The Northeast Utilities System

August 24, 1999

LIC-99333

AR # 99011259

Mr. Gregg LaMontagne
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Region
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 02173

Seabrook Station
Seal Entrapment--July 26, 1999

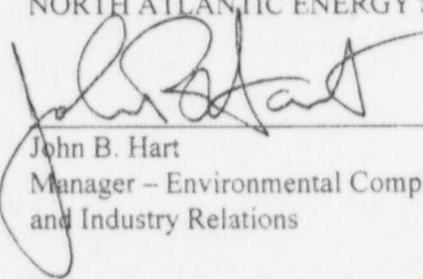
North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (North Atlantic) hereby submits the enclosed report of a seal entrapment at Seabrook Station on July 26, 1999, in accordance with Paragraph 6(i) of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Letter of Authorization¹ to take a small number of seals incidental to intake cooling water system operations at Seabrook Station. The results of the seal necropsy performed by the New England Aquarium are also enclosed.

The seal was recovered from screen wash debris on July 26, 1999. North Atlantic notified² the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of this entrapment pursuant to Paragraph 6(f) of the NMFS Letter of Authorization. The Environmental Protection Agency was also notified³ per their request⁴.

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

Very truly yours,

NORTH ATLANTIC ENERGY SERVICE CORP.



John B. Hart
Manager - Environmental Compliance
and Industry Relations

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- ¹ NMFS Letter of Authorization dated July 2, 1999, from H. Diaz-Soltero (NMFS) to T. Feigenbaum (North Atlantic)
- ² Notification of seal entrapment, telephone notification by R. Sher (North Atlantic) to E. Hutchins (NMFS) on July 26, 1999
- ³ Notification of seal entrapment, telephone notification by R. Sher (North Atlantic) to J. Palmer on July 26, 1999
- ⁴ EPA letter dated June 17, 1999, "Offshore Intake Seal Deterrent Barrier Design," from L. Murphy (EPA) to J. Hart (North Atlantic)

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cc (with Enclosure)

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ENCLOSURE TO LIC-99333

SEABROOK STATION
SEAL ENTRAPMENT INCIDENT REPORT
JULY 26, 1999

Site of Entrapment and Date of Initial Observation (Recovery Date):	Screen wash debris on July 26, 1999 (July 26, 1999).
Species Identification:	Harbor seal.
Description/Condition of Seal:	Young-of-the-year female (age about four months). Weight about 40 pounds. Good condition. See more detail in attached New England Aquarium necropsy report.
Reporter:	Ron Sher, Senior Scientist
Last Seal Observation:	A seal was recovered on July 2, 1999. An incident report was submitted to the NMFS ⁵ .
Recent Fish Impingement:	About 110 fish were impinged during the period July 19-26, 1999, including 96 pollock and four rock gunnel.
Cooling Water Intake Temperature at Approximate Time of Entrapment:	52°F
Plant Power Level at Time of Entrapment Discovery:	Seabrook Station was operating at 100 percent power.

⁵ North Atlantic letter LIC-99301, dated July 30, 1999, "Seal Entrapment-July 2, 1999," J. Hart (North Atlantic) to S. Sandorf (NMFS)

SEABROOK STATION
SEAL ENTRAPMENT INCIDENT NECROPSY REPORT

Accession Number: MH-99-670-Pv

Site of Impingement: Seabrook Station Screen Wash Trench

Date Seal was Identified and Recovered: 7/26/99

Date Transported: 8/6/99
by: NEAq truck

Date Examined: 8/9/99
by: G.Early-NEAq

Species: Harbor seal

Brief History: small seal in good condition.

Circumstantial Information: last seal recovered, 7/2/99 (MH-99-660-Pv), bone from young harbor seal recovered at same time (MH-99-671-Pv)

Description/Condition: Code:2

Sex: F

Weight: 40 lbs.

Standard Length: 81 cm Ft. Flipper: 15 cm

Blubber thickness: 1.75 cm Rear Flipper: 18 cm

Axially Girth: 60 cm

Gross Description: good condition young of the year harbor seal... age est 4 months

Significant Gross Pathology or Trauma: no heart or lung parasites...hemorrhage of eyes into anterior chamber, consistent with submersion. Hemorrhage surrounding larynx, extending to thoracic inlet. Lungs dark and wet. Airways filled with blood tinged fluid

Stomach Contents: @ 150 grams of contents...semi-digested fish (pos. hake (sp.?) otoliths saved.

Samples Saved: otoliths

Further Analysis: stomach content analysis

Comments: Signs consistent with live impingement, possibly while foraging (recently ingested prey). Age (size) and condition of seal consistent with recently weaned, young of the year pup. No other significant disease or pathology.

Additional Measurements: Measurements of head were also taken. All measurements taken at widest point of head (at ear level). Width...11.5cm...Depth (dorsal to ventral)...12.5cm...Girth (at ears). 35cm.