

**North
Atlantic**

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The Northeast Utilities System

April 8, 1998

Docket No. 50-443

NYN-98053

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Seabrook Station
License Amendment Request 98-03,
"Changes In Technical Specification Surveillance Intervals
To Accommodate A 24-Month Fuel Cycle Per Generic Letter 91-04"
Submittal No. 2

North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (North Atlantic) has enclosed herein License Amendment Request (LAR) 98-03. LAR 98-03 is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR50.90 and 10CFR50.4.

LAR 98-03 is the second submittal in a planned series of License Amendment Requests which propose changes to the Seabrook Station Technical Specifications to accommodate fuel cycles of up to 24 months. The proposed changes are associated with surveillance requirements involving steam generator tube inspections that are currently performed at each 18-month or other specified outage interval. The License Amendment Request has been prepared in accordance with the generic guidance contained in NRC Generic Letter (GL) 91-04, "Changes In Technical Specification Surveillance Intervals To Accommodate A 24-Month Fuel Cycle."

The technical evaluation of the proposed increase in surveillance interval supports the conclusion that the effect on plant safety is insignificant. Analysis of historical surveillance data indicates tube degradation of the type experienced at Seabrook Station, Anti-Vibration Bar (AVB) Wear, will not reduce the margins of safety required by Regulatory Guide 1.121 for fuel cycles extended up to 24 months. In addition, the performance of the subject surveillances at the bounding surveillance interval of 24 months, plus 25% extension (30 months), does not invalidate assumptions in the plant licensing basis.

LAR 98-03 has been reviewed and approved by the Station Operation Review Committee and the Nuclear Safety Audit Review Committee.

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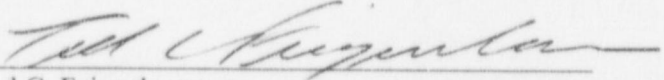
As discussed in the enclosed LAR Section IV, the proposed changes do not involve a significant hazard consideration pursuant to 10CFR50.92. A copy of this letter and the enclosed LAR have been forwarded to the New Hampshire State Liaison Officer pursuant to 10CFR50.91(b). North Atlantic requests NRC review of LAR 98-03 and issuance of a license amendment by October 10, 1998 (see Section V enclosed).

North Atlantic has determined that LAR 98-03 meets the criteria of 10CFR51.22(c)(9) and 10CFR51.22(c)(10) for a categorical exclusion from the requirements for an Environmental Impact Statement (see Section VI enclosed).

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Terry L. Harpster, Director of Licensing Services, at (603) 773-7765.

Very truly yours,

NORTH ATLANTIC ENERGY SERVICE CORP.


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Executive Vice President
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