

MAY 25 1989

Docket No. 50-443

Public Service Company of New Hampshire
ATTN: Mr. Edward A. Brown
President and Chief Executive Officer
New Hampshire Yankee Division
Post Office Box 300
Seabrook, New Hampshire 03874

Gentlemen:

Subject: NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-443/89-03

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Messrs. D. Ruscitto and D. Dempsey of this office on February 28 - April 24, 1989, at the Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1, Seabrook, New Hampshire. The inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel and observations by the inspectors. The results of the inspection are described in the NRC Region I Inspection Report enclosed with this letter and were discussed with Messrs. T. Feigenbaum and G. Thomas of your staff after the conclusion of the inspection.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that certain of your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements as set forth in the Notice of Violation enclosed herewith as Appendix A. The violation concerns the failure on two occasions to comply with the special measures of Facility Operating License No. NPF-56 which requires certain valves to be locked closed to prevent inadvertent boron dilution. This violation has been categorized by severity level in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C, 53 Federal Register 40019 (October 13, 1988). These two incidents, when viewed in conjunction with several other recent minor operations, maintenance and surveillance errors appear to indicate a potential weakness in what has been, to date, an excellent operating record. Although we are concerned that such lapses have occurred at this critical time when you are preparing to conduct initial criticality and low power testing, we acknowledge your intention to initiate appropriate corrective action as described in your letter to the NRC dated April 28, 1989 (NYN-89047).

A second violation of NRC requirements was identified by one of your quality assurance audits. This violation involved welding program deficiencies. A third violation, also identified by your staff, involved the failure to report the discovery of a controlled substance inside the protected area within one hour as required. A Notice of Violation has not been issued for either of these two violations because they were self-identified and meet the other criteria described in 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C for the exercise of enforcement discretion.

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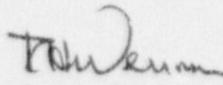
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One other violation of the Seabrook Technical Specifications was identified in your follow-up of instrument overlap testing as reported in a Licensee Event Report. The violation is not being cited because the criteria specified in Section V.A of the Enforcement Policy were satisfied.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,


James T. Wiggins, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch No. 3
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-443/89-03

cc w/encls:

J. C. Duffett, President and Chief Executive Officer, PSNH
T. C. Feigenbaum, Vice President, Engineering, Licensing and Quality Programs, NHY
J. M. Peschel, Operational Programs Manager, NHY
D. E. Moody, Station Manager, NHY
P. W. Agnes, Jr., Assistant Secretary of Public Safety, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Public Document Room
Local Public Document Room
Nuclear Safety Information Center
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Hampshire
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Seabrook Hearing Service List

MAY 25 1989

bcc w/encls:
Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
M. Perkins, DRMA (w/o encls)
J. Wiggins, DRP
D. Haverkamp, DRP
N. Dudley, RI - Seabrook (w/concurrences)
A. Cerne, Seabrook
G. Grant, SRI - Vermont Yankee
J. Macdonald, SRI - Yankee
R. Bores, DRSS
K. Abraham, PAO (2)
V. Nerses, NRR

RI:DRP
DRuscitto/mjd

for
5/24/89

RI:DRP
DHaverkamp

5/24/89

RI:DRP
JWiggins

5/25/89

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