June 30, 2000

Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum
Executive Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Seabrook Station
North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation
c/o Mr. James M. Peschel
P.O. Box 300
Seabrook, NH 03874

SUBJECT: SEABROOK GENERATING STATION - INSPECTION REPORT 05000443/2000-004

Dear Mr. Feigenbaum:

The enclosed report documents a safety inspection at the Seabrook Generating Station, Unit 1, which evaluated the performance of your emergency response organization (ERO) during the June 7, 2000, full-participation exercise, and the post-exercise critique as specified in the reactor oversight program. The inspectors discussed the findings of this inspection with you and members of your staff on June 8, 2000.

This inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your license as they relate to safety and compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selected examination of procedures and representative records, observations of activities, and interviews with personnel.

No findings were identified.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

***/RA by Brian E. Holian for/***

Wayne D. Lanning, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 05000443

Enclosure: Inspection Report No. 05000443/2000-004

cc w/encl:
B. D. Kenyon, President and Chief Executive Officer
J. M. Peschel, Manager - Regulatory Programs
W. A. DiProfio, Station Director - Seabrook Station
R. E. Hickok, Nuclear Training Manager - Seabrook Station
D. E. Carriere, Director, Production Services
L. M. Cuoco, Esquire, Senior Nuclear Counsel
D. A. Smith, Manager of Regulatory Affairs, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
W. Fogg, Director, New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management
D. McElhinney, RAC Chairman, FEMA RI, Boston, Mass
R. Backus, Esquire, Backus, Meyer and Solomon, New Hampshire
D. Brown-Couture, Director, Nuclear Safety, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
F. W. Getman, Jr., Vice President and Chief Executive Office, BayCorp Holdings, LTD
R. Hallisey, Director, Dept. of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Seacoast Anti-Pollution League
D. Tefft, Administrator, Bureau of Radiological Health, State of New Hampshire
S. Comley, Executive Director, We the People of the United States
W. Meinert, Nuclear Engineer
S. Allen, Polestar Applied Technology, Incorporated
J. Bean, Regional Director, FEMA RI

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REGION I

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| Docket No: | 05000443 |
| License No: | NPF-86 |
| Report No: | 05000443/2000-004 |
| Licensee: | North Atlantic Energy Services Corporation |
| Facility: | Seabrook Generating Station, Unit 1 |
| Dates: | June 6-8, 2000 |
| Inspectors: | D. Barss, Emergency Preparedness Specialist, NRR (Lead)<br>R. Lorson, Senior Resident Inspector, DRP<br>J. Brand, Resident Inspector, DRP<br>J. D'Antonio, Operations Engineer, DRS<br>R. Ragland, Health Physicist, DRS |
| Approved by: | Richard J. Conte, Chief<br>Operational Safety Branch<br>Division of Reactor Safety |

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Seabrook Generating Station, Unit 1
June 6-8, 2000
Inspection Report No. 05000443/2000-004

The report covers a 3 day onsite period of an inspection of the biennial exercise by region based inspectors supported by resident inspectors and NRR (a senior resident inspector, a resident inspector, an emergency preparedness specialist, an operations engineer and a health physicist). The NRC's Revised Reactor Oversight Process is described at the end of the report.

Cornerstone: Emergency Preparedness

- No inspection findings were identified.

Report Details

## 1. REACTOR SAFETY

Cornerstone: Emergency Preparedness (EP)

### 1EP1 Drill, Exercise, and Actual Events

a. Inspection Scope

- Reviewed exercise objectives and scenario to determine if the exercise would test major elements of the licensee's emergency plan.
- Observed and evaluated the licensee's biennial full-participation exercise performance by focusing on risk-significant activities in the simulator control room, the technical support center, the operations support center, and the emergency operations facility.
- Assessed the emergency response organization's (ERO) recognition of abnormal plant conditions, classification of emergency conditions, notification of offsite agencies, development of protective action recommendations, command and control, communications, utilization of repair and field monitoring teams, and the overall implementation of the emergency plan.
- Observed the post-exercise critique to evaluate the licensee's self-assessment of the exercise.

b. Issues and Findings

No findings were identified.

## 4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

### 4OA2 Identification and Resolution of Problems

a. Inspection Scope

The inspectors reviewed licensee findings (audits and critiques) pertaining to recent drills (May 3-4, 2000, March 22 and 24, 2000, September 15, 1999, and February 10, 1999), and the last licensee biennial exercise critique (June 3, 1998) to determine if performance trends exist and to determine the effectiveness of licensee corrective actions based upon ERO performance during the exercise.

b. Issues and Findings

No findings were identified.

40A6 Exit Meeting

The inspectors presented the inspection results to members of licensee management (all licensee personnel on the contacts list) at the conclusion of the inspection on June 8, 2000.

## PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee

T. Feigenbaum, Executive Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
G. Gram, Director Support Services
W. DiProfio, Station Director
J. Sobotka, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor
C. Goodnon, Chief of Security
D. Young, Senior Nuclear Emergency Planning Coordinator
J. Peterson, Performance Improvement
G. St. Pierre, Operations Manager
A. Griffith, Communication Manager
M. Lewis, Maintenance Services Manager
P. Ryan, Security Supervisor
R. Bergeron, Electrical Engineering Manager
J. Pescher, Regulatory Programs Manager
M. Ossing, NRC Coordinator
J. Grillo, Assistant Station Manager
J. Marchi, Audit Manager
B. Proagh, Self-Assessment Program Manager
C. Berry, HU Program Manager
P. Stroup, Manager Performance Improvement
B. Beuchel, Project Manager
S. Duston, Technical Training Supervisor
R. Hickok, Training Manager
R. Thurlow, Health Physics Supervisor
T. Pucko, Engineer
D. Tailleart, Emergency Preparedness Manager

## ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

Opened

None

Closed

None

Discussed

None

## LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

ERO Emergency Response Organization

# NRC's REVISED REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS

The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recently revamped its inspection, assessment, and enforcement programs for commercial nuclear power plants. The new process takes into account improvements in the performance of the nuclear industry over the past 25 years and improved approaches of inspecting and assessing safety performance at NRC licensed plants.

The new process monitors licensee performance in three broad areas (called strategic performance areas): reactor safety (avoiding accidents and reducing the consequences of accidents if they occur), radiation safety (protecting plant employees and the public during routine operations), and safeguards (protecting the plant against sabotage or other security threats). The process focuses on licensee performance within each of seven cornerstones of safety in the three areas:

| Reactor Safety | Radiation Safety | Safeguards |
|---|---|---|
| ● Initiating Events | ● Occupational | ● Physical Protection |
| ● Mitigating Systems | ● Public | |
| ● Barrier Integrity | | |
| ● Emergency Preparedness | | |

To monitor these seven cornerstones of safety, the NRC uses two processes that generate information about the safety significance of plant operations: inspections and performance indicators. Inspection findings will be evaluated according to their potential significance for safety, using the Significance Determination Process, and assigned colors of GREEN, WHITE, YELLOW or RED. GREEN findings are indicative of issues that, while they may not be desirable, represent very low safety significance. WHITE findings indicate issues that are of low to moderate safety significance. YELLOW findings are issues that are of substantial safety significance. RED findings represent issues that are of high safety significance with a significant reduction in safety margin.

Performance indicator data will be compared to established criteria for measuring licensee performance in terms of potential safety. Based on prescribed thresholds, the indicators will be classified by color representing varying levels of performance and incremental degradation in safety: GREEN, WHITE, YELLOW, and RED. GREEN indicators represent performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight beyond the baseline inspections. WHITE corresponds to performance that may result in increased NRC oversight. YELLOW represents performance that minimally reduces safety margin and requires even more NRC oversight. And RED indicates performance that represents a significant reduction in safety margin but still provides adequate protection to public health and safety.

The assessment process integrates performance indicators and inspection so the agency can reach objective conclusions regarding overall plant performance. The agency will use an Action Matrix to determine in a systematic, predictable manner which regulatory actions should be taken based on a licensee's performance. The NRC's actions in response to the significance (as represented by the color) of issues will be the same for performance indicators as for inspection findings. As a licensee's safety performance degrades, the NRC will take more and increasingly significant action, which can include shutting down a plant, as described in the Action Matrix.

More information can be found at: http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/index.html.