

Attachment H

Field Survey Information

A search of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's (CTDEP) Natural Diversity Data Base maps and files has revealed no "endangered" or "threatened" species within the Millstone Power Station (MPS) project boundary. However, one local species was classified as being of "special concern"; seabeach sandwort (*Honckenya peploides*)

Seabeach sandwort is a low, fleshy-leaved herb occasionally found above the strandline, or high-water berm above sandy beaches. Numerous populations were identified on sandy beaches near MPS in surveys conducted in 1997 and 1998 (see Attachment). However, as the major MPS discharges are near rocky shores, impact associated with station operations on this plant is expected to remain minimal.

Another important natural community identified in the waters near MPS include subtidal saltwater aquatic vegetation. Since 1985, eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) beds in the vicinity of Millstone Point have been monitored extensively as part of a much larger ecological monitoring program designed to assess the impacts of MPS operations on the local marine environment. The objectives of the eelgrass monitoring program are to identify temporal patterns of eelgrass distribution, abundance, and reproduction, and to determine the extent to which changes in these patterns are the result of natural variability or MPS operation. Results of this long-term monitoring conducted through 2001 indicate that sampling sites nearest to MPS (Jordan Cove and White Point) have supported stable populations since 1985.

After further consultation with staff from the Natural Diversity Data Base and review of the processes in the renewed NPDES permit for Millstone Station, no impacts to any of these species or communities are expected

Attachment - Map of 1997 and 1998 shoreline surveys of seabeach sandwort (*Honckenya peploides*)

Attachment 1. Approximate locations of sea-beach sandwort, *Honckenya peploides*, (*) identified during the October 7, 1997 and August 31, 1998 shoreline surveys of Millstone Station and adjacent properties conducted by Millstone Environmental Laboratory staff.

