



ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
ANTITRUST DIVISION

United States Department of Justice

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

20 AUG 1979

Howard K. Shapar, Esquire  
Executive Legal Director  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: New England Power Service  
New England Power Units 1 and 2  
NRC Docket Nos. 50-568A and 50-569A

Dear Mr. Shapar:

You have requested our advice pursuant to Section 105(c) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, in connection with the purchase by Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) and Maine Public Service Company of ownership interests in the above captioned nuclear units. In addition, you have informed us that Bangor Hydro-Electric Company (Bangor-Hydro) will increase its existing ownership share by 3.13%.

Maine Public Service's proposed interest would be less than 20 MW per unit, and Bangor-Hydro was reviewed in my letter of April 11, 1977 in connection with its current ownership interest in these units. MMWEC, which will be purchasing a 6.008% ownership share, while not previously reviewed in connection with these units, was recently reviewed in my letter of December 19, 1978, pertaining to Seabrook Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, NRC Docket Nos. 50-443A and 50-444A.

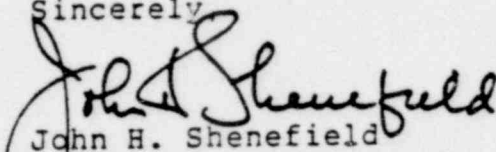
Our review of the information submitted in connection with the present application, as well as other relevant information, has disclosed no evidence that the proposed

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participation by Maine Public Service, Bangor-Hydro and MMWEC in the New England Power Units would either create or maintain a situation inconsistent with the antitrust laws under Section 105(c). We do not, therefore, believe it is necessary for the Commission to hold an antitrust hearing in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
John H. Shenefield  
Assistant Attorney General  
Antitrust Division

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