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NYN-93052

April 7, 1993

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Document Control Desk

Reference: Facility Operating License No. NPF-86, Docket No. 50-443

Subject: License Amendment Request 93-02: "Service Water System/Ultimate Heat Sink OPERABILITY Requirements" (TAC No. M85750)

Gentlemen:

North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (North Atlantic) encloses herein License Amendment Request 93-02. This License Amendment Request is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR50.90 and 10CFR50.4.

The purpose of License Amendment Request 93-02 is to propose changes to the Seabrook Station Technical Specifications to redefine the requirements for an OPERABLE Service Water System and to consolidate the service water requirements with the requirements for the ultimate heat sink. The design of the Seabrook Station Service Water System employs two redundant loops. Each loop is equipped with two full capacity service water pumps, which use the Atlantic Ocean as the ultimate heat sink, and a cooling tower service water pump which uses the atmosphere as the ultimate heat sink. Operation of any one of the six pumps will satisfy the service water cooling requirements during the postulated design basis event. The requirements for service water cooling are presently contained in two separate Technical Specifications.

Seabrook Station Technical Specification 3/4.7.4 currently require two OPERABLE Service Water loops with each loop having three OPERABLE pumps (two service water pumps and one cooling tower service water pump) when in Modes 1, 2, 3, and 4. This requirement is unnecessarily restrictive since the second service water pump in each loop is not required for normal or design basis accident conditions and the associated cooling tower service water pump provides the required redundancy during the postulated design basis event. The proposed changes: (1) redefine an OPERABLE service water loop as having one OPERABLE service water pump and one OPERABLE cooling tower service water pump; (2) revise the allowed outage times for a service water loop cooling tower service water pump; (3) revise the surveillance requirements for service water pumps and; (4) adds two new action statements based on the proposed definition of service water system OPERABILITY. The proposed Technical Specification changes will remove the overly restrictive redundancy requirements and enhance plant reliability by allowing planned and corrective maintenance to be performed on line, thereby eliminating unnecessary mode changes. A Probabilistic Risk Assessment performed by North Atlantic supports the proposed definition of Service Water System OPERABILITY.

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Seabrook Station Technical Specification 3/4.7.5 specifies the requirements for the ultimate heat sink. This specification has been consolidated into the proposed Technical Specification 3/4.7.5. This consolidation is proposed to reduce the potential for confusion between the Specifications and to control station operation in a manner consistent with the station design basis. The ultimate heat sink is the Atlantic Ocean when the service water pumps are utilized and the atmosphere when the cooling tower service water pumps are utilized.

The proposed changes to the Service Water System Technical Specification address issues identified in the NRC's Regulatory Review Task Force draft report related to requirements in Technical Specifications that go beyond regulatory requirements.

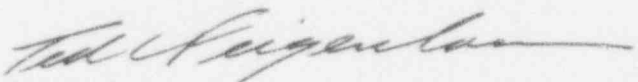
License Amendment Request 93-02 has been reviewed and approved by the North Atlantic Station Operation Review Committee and the Nuclear Safety Audit Review Committee.

As discussed in Section V of the License Amendment Request, the proposed changes have been determined not to involve a significant hazards consideration pursuant to 10CFR50.92. A copy of this letter and the enclosed License Amendment Request have been forwarded to the State of New Hampshire State Liaison Officer pursuant to 10CFR50.91(b). In addition, North Atlantic has determined that License Amendment Request 93-02 meets the criteria of 10CFR51.22(c)(9) for a categorical exclusion from the requirements for an Environmental Impact Statement (see Section VII, enclosed).

North Atlantic requests NRC review of License Amendment Request 93-02 and issuance of a license amendment by October 10, 1993 (see enclosed License Amendment Request 93-02, Section VI).

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Terry L. Harpster, Director of Licensing Services, at (603) 474-9521, extension 2765.

Very truly yours,


Ted C. Feigenbaum

Enclosure

TCF:MJM/tad/act

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