

New Hampshire Yankee

Ted C. Feigenbaum
President and
Chief Executive Officer

NYN-92034

March 23, 1992

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

Attention: Document Control Desk

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

Subject: License Amendment Request 91-07, and Exemption Request; Decoupling the Third Integrated Leak Rate Test From the 10-Year Inservice Inspection

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.90, New Hampshire Yankee (NHY) hereby transmits License Amendment Request 91-07 as Enclosure 1. Additionally, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, Enclosure 2 contains a request for an exemption from specific test scheduling requirements delineated in 10 CFR 50, Appendix J. The exemption request supports the aforementioned license amendment request as described below.

The purpose of License Amendment Request 91-07 is to propose changes to the Seabrook Station Technical Specifications, and in particular, the containment testing requirements of Surveillance Requirement 4.6.1.2.a. This Surveillance Requirement currently requires three Type A Integrated Containment Leak Rate Tests to be conducted in a 10-year service period at 40 ± 10 month intervals. Surveillance Requirement 4.6.1.2.a also states that the third Type A test of each set shall be conducted during the 10-year plant inservice inspection shutdown. License Amendment Request 91-07 proposes to change Surveillance Requirement 4.6.1.2.a to maintain the 40 ± 10 month testing interval but eliminate the requirement to perform three Type A tests in each 10-year service period. The requested amendment also proposes to decouple every third Type A Integrated Leak Rate Test in a 10-year service period from the 10-year plant inservice inspection shutdown.

Two Type A Integrated Containment Leak Rate Tests were conducted in March 1986 and November 1989. These tests were performed in anticipation of the zero power and full power operating licenses, respectively. Due to the delay in receiving the full power operating license, and in order to maintain the 40 ± 10 month testing interval, the third Type A test is scheduled for the 1992 refueling outage. This test will not coincide with the 10-year plant inservice inspection shutdown.

As discussed in the enclosed License Amendment Request 91-07, Section V, the proposed changes have been determined not to involve a significant hazards consideration pursuant to the standards of 10 CFR 50.92. Additionally, License Amendment Request 91-07 has been reviewed and approved by the NHY Station Operation Review Committee and the Nuclear Safety Audit Review Committee.

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The Type A Integrated Containment Leak Rate Test schedule requirements contained in the Seabrook Station Technical Specifications are based on the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix J, "Primary Reactor Containment Leakage Testing for Water-Cooled Power Reactors," and specifically, Section III.D.1(a), "Periodic Retest Schedule." Accordingly, the proposed license amendment requires relief from the corresponding 10 CFR 50, Appendix J test schedule requirements. Enclosure 2 describes the specific exemption request and includes an evaluation of the request against the criteria of 10 CFR 50.12. As described in Enclosure 2, NHY concludes that the granting of this exemption request is authorized by law, would not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security.

New Hampshire Yankee's proposed schedule for the NRC approval and issuance of License Amendment Request 91-07 is September 9, 1992 (see enclosed License Amendment Request 91-07, Section VI).

A copy of this letter and the enclosed License Amendment Request 91-07 and corresponding exemption request have been forwarded to the State of New Hampshire State Liaison Officer pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91(b).

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

Very truly yours,



Ted C. Feigenbaum

Enclosure

JES

cc: Mr. Thomas T. Martin
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ENCLOSURE 1 TO NYN-92034