

April 9, 1997

Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum
Executive Vice President and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Northeast Utilities Service Company
c/o Mr. Terry L. Harpster
Director - Nuclear Licensing Services
P.O. Box 128
Waterford, CT 06385

SUBJECT: APPROVAL FOR USE OF ASME CODE CASES N-524 - SEABROOK STATION, UNIT
NO. 1 (TAC NO. M97201)

Dear Mr. Feigenbaum:

By letter dated October 22, 1996, North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (North Atlantic) requested approval for the use of the alternative rules of ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI Code Case N-524, "Alternative Examination Requirements for Longitudinal Welds in Class 1 and 2 Piping Section XI, Division 1," dated August 9, 1993. The staff has completed its review of North Atlantic's request. Based on the staff's evaluation of the information submitted, North Atlantic's request for approval to use Code Case N-524 is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) as the implementation of the Code Case N-524 provides an acceptable level of quality and safety. North Atlantic's proposed use of Code Case N-524 is authorized until such time as the code case is included in a future revision of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.147. At that time, North Atlantic is to follow all provisions in Code Case N-524 with any limitations issued in RG 1.147 should North Atlantic continue to implement this relief.

The staff's related safety evaluation and conclusions are contained in the enclosed safety evaluation.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Patrick D. Milano, Acting Director
Project Directorate I-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443
Serial No. SEA-97-008
Enclosure: Safety Evaluation
cc w/encl: See next page

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