UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I
J.F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-2211

October 27, 1993

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RECEIVED
NOV - 1 1993
R.G.C.

Mr. R.G. Chevalier, Vice President
Northeast Utilities
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270

Re: NPDES Permit NH0001465 - PSNH Merrimack Station

Dear Mr. Chevalier:

On October 14, 1993, in a phone conversation to Dr. Nicholas Prodany of my staff, Mr. Allan Palmer of your staff requested an increase in the average monthly flow rate for Outfall 003A. This outfall is for effluent from the Ash Settling Pond - during routine operation. The current permitted limit for the average monthly flow rate is 9.0 MGD. The request was for an approximate ten (10) percent increase or a flow rate of 10.0 MGD. This request has been made because the Station is currently using a low sulfur-content coal which has a higher fusion point than most of the coals previously used. This higher fusion point necessitates greater amounts of water for quenching and sluicing of the slag from the boilers.

With a general increase of precipitation during the Spring season, a definite potential exists that the permitted average monthly flow rate of 9.0 MGD will be exceeded, although the daily maximum value of 19.1 MGD will not be exceeded.

In compliance with permit requirements, this Station plans to separate the ash settling pond from the nearby wetlands in 1994. Therefore, EPA anticipates this projected minor exceedence to the permit limits will be corrected in 1994. Moreover, this increase in flow rate will not cause a significant change to the established average copper-concentration of 0.0053 mg/l during routine discharges from Outfall 003A. This average copper-concentration at the weir discharge is based on data taken over the past three years, i.e. from 12/12/90 to 5/21/93. For reference purposes, the effluent permit limitation for copper at Outfall 003A is 0.2 mg/l.

This potentially minor exceedence in flow will not cause a detectable change in State water quality standards.

EPA considers this change acceptable and will include it in the next permit modification or permit reissuance which ever occurs first.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dr. Prodany of my staff at 617-565-3587.

Sincerely,

for Edward K. McSweeney, Chief
Wastewater Management Branch

cc: A.Palmer - PSNH
J.Andrews - NHDES
D.Starr - NHDES
S.Silva - EPA, Compliance

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Allan Palmer

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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Ronald G. Chevalier
Vice President
Public Service Company of New Hampshire
P.O. Box 330
Manchester NH 03105-0330

RE: NPDES Permit NH0001473
PSNH - Schiller Station

Dear Mr. Chevalier:

We have received your letter of December, 1994 detailing the elimination of outfalls 007, 008, and 009 due to the deactivation of an auxiliary steam plant. Effective the date of this letter outfalls 007, 008, and 009 are eliminated. The corresponding "Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements" permit pages (page 14 of 24, page 15 of 24 and 16 of 24) are no longer active; please make the appropriate notation on these three pages. This change constitutes a minor modification to your NPDES permit in accordance with 40 CFR Section 122.63(e)(2).

This change is effective immediately, unless we receive a written objection within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this letter.

If you have any further questions, please contact Judith Grissom of my staff at 617-565-4876.

Sincerely,

for David A. Fierra, Director
Water Management Division

CC: Allan Palmer, PSNH
NH DES
EPA - R.Harrington

cc'd GNSTL

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