



**Public Service
of New Hampshire**

Admin #163

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The Northeast Utilities System

OCT 15 1997

October 7, 1997

Mr. William C. Ingham, Jr.
New Hampshire Fish and Game Department
2 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

Mr. Joseph F. McKeon
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Building, Room 124
Laconia, NH 03246

✓ Ms. Joy Palmer
NPDES Program Operations Section (WCP-2109)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 8127
Boston, MA 02114

Mr. Kendall Perkins
N.H. Department of Environmental Services
Water Division
Permits and Compliance Section
64 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Sir/Madam:

In compliance with Part I, Section A, 10.b.2, of Merrimack Station's NPDES permit (Permit No. NH0001465) Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) herein submits this report of an extraordinary impingement event. Verbal notification was given to the NHDES, NHF&GD, USEPA, and USF&WS Monday afternoon, October 6, 1997.

On Saturday, October 4, 1997 at 1:40 a.m. there was an extraordinary impingement event at PSNH's Merrimack Generating Station located on the Merrimack River in Bow, New Hampshire. Sixty-three (63) juvenile river herring became impinged on Unit 2's circulating cooling water intake screens. The river herring ranged in length from 6.5 cm to 9.5 cm.

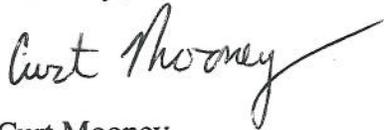


As required in the permit, PSNH conducts impingement monitoring at the Merrimack Station when flows from Garvins Falls Station drop below 900 CFS from July 1 through October 15. Additionally, PSNH has initiated voluntary 24 hr. monitoring for Unit 2 screenwashes while the downstream migration of river herring continues.

PSNH continues to believe these recent impingement events are due to the increased number of juvenile fish observed in the river this year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 634-2383.

Sincerely,



Curt Mooney
PSNH Associate Scientist

cc: Mr. Jonathan C. Greenwood (NHF&GD)

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