



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 1  
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

September 10, 2002

Mr. John M. MacDonald, Vice President - Operations  
Public Service of New Hampshire  
P.O. Box 330  
Manchester, NH 03105-0330

**Re: Relocation of Outfalls 016/017 in Schiller Station's NPDES No. NH0001473 from Direct Discharge to Intertidal Zone to Direct Discharge to Either Outfall 002, 003 and/or 004.**

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA-New England) has reviewed Public Service of New Hampshire's (PSNH) proposal to install a pumping station on the discharge side of the existing neutralization tank in order to reroute that discharge (Outfalls 016 and 017) to the discharge side of either of three (3) existing cooling condensers (Outfalls 002, 003 and/or 004). As a result, Outfalls 016 and 017 will no longer discharge to the intertidal zone, but instead, directly into the main channel of the Piscataqua River through either Outfalls 002, 003 and/or 004, thus obtaining significantly more dilution from the combined availability of condenser cooling water and receiving water. The Agency believes that this proposal to remove wastewater effluent from the intertidal zone benefits the environment; therefore, EPA-New England concurs with PSNH's proposal as described in your letter dated August 16, 2002, including attached piping diagram, subject to the conditions outlined below. These conditions will be either adopted as permit conditions in the reissued permit or terminated depending on the circumstances.

- (1) The PSNH shall be aware that the technology-based effluent limits in the current permit for Outfalls 016 and 017 shall continue to be monitored for permit compliance prior to their discharge into the condenser cooling water discharge;
- (2) Procedures shall be instituted by PSNH to ensure that the discharge from the neutralization tank will only be made to an on-line (generating power) condenser cooling water discharge;
- (3) Procedures shall be instituted by PSNH to ensure that there will be no discharge from either Outfall 016 or 017 during annual outages or when all three (3) generating units are off-line (not generating power), except if PSNH maintains the condenser cooling pump(s) operating at sufficient volume to provide dilution of at least 50 to 1 when discharging from either Outfall 016 or 017; and
- (4) Within thirty (30) days following installation of the pumping station and any necessary re-piping, the drain pipe that conveyed treated wastewater effluent from the neutralization tank to the intertidal zone shall be completely severed at a point inside the facility. The PSNH shall notify EPA-New England and the NHDES-WD in writing of the date that drain pipe was severed including the date discharges from Outfalls 016 and 017 began discharging to Outfalls 002, 003 and/or 004.

September 10, 2002

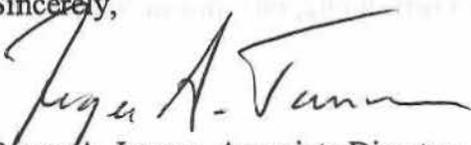
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NH0001473

The PSNH is also advised that when Schiller Station's NPDES permit is reissued the dilution needed to meet the State's Surface Water Quality Regulations (i.e., water-quality standards) for the discharge of Outfalls 016 and 017 to the cooling condensers will be based on the smallest permitted cooling water discharge of the operating condenser units.

In addition, the Agency's consent to this proposal, that is the installation of the pumping station and any necessary re-piping of Outfalls 016 and 017 to Outfalls 002, 003 and/or 004, is contingent upon receipt of a certified letter from PSNH agreeing to all four (4) conditions listed on the previous page.

Sincerely,



Roger A. Janson, Associate Director  
Surface Water Programs  
Office of Ecosystem Protection

cc: Joy Hilton, Water Technical Unit, EPA-New England, Mail Code SEW;  
Norma Mason, Water Technical Unit, EPA-New England, Mail Code SEW;  
Jeffrey G. Andrews, NHDES-WD;  
Allan G. Palmer, PSNH, P.O. Box 330, Manchester, NH 03105-0330.