



October 18, 1995

D09270

Nicholas W. Prodany, Environmental Engineer  
Wastewater Management Section  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
J.F. Kennedy Federal Building  
Boston, Massachusetts 02203-2211

Reference: Letter (C06325), V.C. Harrington to R.G. Chevalier, dated July 10, 1995.

Dear Nick,

Schiller Station  
NPDES Permit No. NH0001473  
June 1, 1995 Reapplication

PSNH received a letter from EPA stating that the NPDES reapplication for Schiller Station was complete (see Reference). On August 2, 1995, we discussed the copper concentration that was reported for the non-contact cooling water discharges (Outfalls 001, 002, 003, 004). The concentration was 0.083 mg/l. Your concern was that copper could potentially accumulate along the shoreline and have a negative impact on the local biota. In response, on August 9th I performed additional sampling at each of the outfalls and at various locations along the shoreline. Two to four hour composite samples were collected at nine different locations. The results were electronically transmitted to you on August 30.

The concentrations at eight of the nine sites were below the detection limit of 0.02 mg/l. The detection limit was restricted by the solids loading in the river (salinity of 3500 parts per thousand). The only detectable sample was collected at Outfall 002 which yielded a value of 0.047 mg/l. A copy of the data sheets and a sampling location plan, P-S-0003, are enclosed for your files. In response to your question regarding the copper-based paint that is used in the tunnels, I have also enclosed a calculation sheet that shows the relative quantity of paint compared to the concentrations detected in the river water.

This data illustrates that copper is not accumulating along the shoreline and that the amount of paint used in Schiller Station's tunnels is insufficient to release concentrations that are harmful to the environment. Please call me at (603) 634-2439 if you have any questions or if additional testing is desired to further resolve this issue.

Very truly yours

Allan G. Palmer  
Senior Engineer.