



The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner



September 4, 2013

Mr. Damien Houlihan, Chief
Industrial Permits Section
Office of Ecosystem Protection
USEPA New England
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Subject: PSNH Schiller Station, Portsmouth
NPDES/State Permit No. NH0001473

Dear Mr. Houlihan:

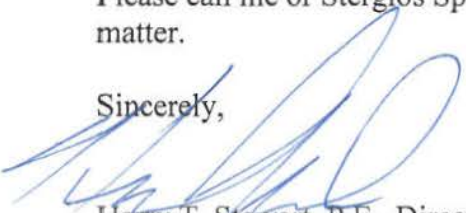
We have received and reviewed your letter dated August 7, 2013 in which you present the results of a thermal study performed jointly by PSNH and EPA at the subject facility on August 31, 2010.

In your letter you also request concurrence from DES that the thermal limits contained in the 1990 NPDES permit attain the NH Surface Water Quality Standards, are supportive of NH state policy and are protective of the existing uses of the Piscataqua River.

We have reviewed the thermal study, which appears to have been conducted under reasonable worst-case conditions, and have considered changes at the facility since the 1990 permit was issued, including the decommissioning of Unit 3. Based on that review, as well as discussions with the NH Department of Fish & Game, we agree that the thermal limits contained in the 1990 permit can be continued in the reissued permit.

Please call me or Stergios Spanos at (603) 271-6637 if you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,



Harry T. Stewart, P.E., Director
Water Division

cc: Paul Heirtzler, P.E., Esq., Administrator, DES-WEB
Douglas Grout, NHF&G