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May 26, 2000
NMP1L 1517

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

RE: Nine Mile Point Unit 1
Docket No. 50-220
DPR-63

Subject: Special Report

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Action Statement 4.a of Nine Mile Point Unit 1 Technical Specification (TS) Table 3.6.11-2, "Accident Monitoring Instrumentation Action Statements," Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation is submitting the following Special Report concerning the inoperability of channel #11 in the Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System.

Description of Event

On the morning of May 13, 2000, the Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System's channel #11 mechanical recorder was discovered in standby and not advancing the paper. In addition, the LED display on the recorder was found blank. This discovery was made during turnover walkdowns of the Control Room panels by Control Room personnel. The recorder was declared inoperable at 0635 hours on May 13, 2000, and Action Statement 4.a of TS Table 3.6.11-2 was entered. The redundant channel #12 of the Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was verified to be operable.

An investigation was performed and it was determined that the failure of channel #11 was caused by a faulty recorder. A problem identification document (PID) was written to troubleshoot and repair the recorder.

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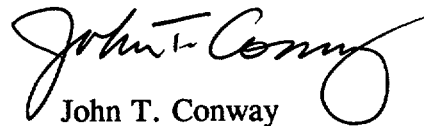
Cause of Failure

The recorder is a TIGRAPH 200 Process Recorder, which uses solid state circuits and components. During the last few years, the channel #11 and channel #12 recorders have experienced overheating problems. A review of the troubleshooting charts in the vendor manual for the recorders indicates that the current problem with the channel #11 recorder is also heat related. The apparent cause of this failure is thermal aging of the components.

Corrective Actions

1. Troubleshooting and repair of the channel #11 recorder has been completed and the recorder declared operable.
2. Channel #11 and channel #12 recorders will be either replaced or upgraded by August 31, 2000.

Very truly yours,



John T. Conway
Vice President Nuclear Generation

JTC/IAA/cr

xc: Mr. H. J. Miller, Regional Administrator, Region I
Mr. G. K. Hunegs, Senior Resident Inspector
Records Management