

October 6, 2000
NMP1L 1546

U. S. 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 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 #12 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System.

Description of Event

On September 22, 2000, a control room annunciator for Channel #12 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System alarmed. The alarm cleared and then alarmed two additional times, all within approximately 30 minutes. Based on the unexpected alarms, Channel #12 was declared inoperable and Action Statement 4.a of Technical Specification Table 3.6.11-2 was entered.

The alarms received in the control room were the result of Temperature Switch TC-3 actuating. When hydrogen cell temperature drops below the setpoint of TC-3, nominally 155°F, the switch actuates to de-energize the local indicators, the bypass pump, and the sample pump. Additionally, an annunciator is alarmed in the control room. Temperature within the hydrogen cell is maintained by Temperature Switch TC-2. Troubleshooting concluded that Temperature Switch TC-2 had failed. TC-2 was replaced, and to enhance reliability, TC-3 was also replaced. After completing the testing, Channel #12 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was declared operable.

The redundant Channel #11 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was in service during the period that the Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was required to be operable by Technical Specifications and Channel #12 was inoperable.

Cause of Event

Channel #12 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was declared inoperable because Temperature Switch TC-2 failed due to normal wear.

IE22

Corrective Actions

The temperature switches were replaced and Channel #12 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was returned to an operable status on October 1, 2000.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LA Hopkins". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Lawrence A. Hopkins
Plant Manager - NMP1

LAH/CES/cld

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