

September 23, 1985

Docket No. 50-220

Mr. B. G. Hooten
Executive Director, Nuclear Operations
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Dear Mr. Hooten:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 74 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-63 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1. The amendment changes the Technical Specifications in response to your request dated March 13, 1985, as supplemented May 6, 1985.

The revision to the Technical Specifications deletes the list of snubbers and adds Limiting Conditions for Operation and surveillance requirements for both hydraulic and mechanical snubbers.

A copy of the Safety Evaluation is also enclosed.

Sincerely,
Original signed by/

Robert A. Hermann, Project Manager
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Licensing

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 74 to License No. DPR-63
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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Mr. B. G. Hooten
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION
DOCKET NO. 50-220
NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 1
AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 74
License No. DPR-63

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee) dated March 13, 1985, as supplemented and clarified by letter dated May 6, 1985, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. DPR-63 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 74, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Licensing

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: September 23, 1985

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 74

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-63

DOCKET NO. 50-220

Revise the Appendix A Technical Specifications by removing and inserting the following pages. The revised areas are indicated by marginal lines.

<u>Existing Page</u>	<u>Revised Page</u>
241a	241a
241b	241b
241c	241c
241d	241d
241e	241e
241f	241f
241g	241g
241h	241h
241i	241i
241j	241j

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

3.6.4 Shock Suppressors (Snubbers)

Applicability

Applies to the operational status of shock suppressors (snubbers).

Objective

To assure the capability of the snubbers to:

Prevent unrestrained pipe motion under dynamic loads as might occur during an earthquake or severe transient, and

Allow normal thermal motion during startup and shutdown.

4.6.4 Shock Suppressors (Snubbers)

Applicability

Applies to the periodic testing requirement for shock suppressors (snubbers).

Objective

To assure the operability of the snubbers to perform their intended functions.

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

Specification

- a. During all reactor operating conditions, except cold shutdown, snubbers shall be operable on those systems required to be operable during that particular operating condition except as noted in 3.6.4.b, c and d below.

Snubbers excluded from this inspection program are those installed on nonsafety-related systems and then only if their failure or failure of the system on which they are installed, would have no adverse effect on any safety-related system.

- b. With one or more snubbers inoperable, within 72 hours replace or restore the inoperable snubber(s) to the operable status or perform an engineering evaluation to determine that the components supported by the snubber(s) were not adversely affected by the inoperability of the snubber(s), i.e. the snubber(s) is (are) not required for system operability.
- c. If after 72 hours the actions as described in Section 3.6.4 b have not been completed, the supported system shall be declared inoperable and the appropriate action statement for that system will be followed.

Specification

The following surveillance requirements apply to snubbers. Snubbers excluded from this inspection program are those installed on nonsafety-related systems and then only if their failure or failure of the system on which they are installed, would have no adverse effect on any safety-related system.

a. Visual Inspection

(i) Visual Inspection Frequency

Snubbers shall be visually inspected in accordance with the following schedule:

Number of Snubbers Found Inoperable During Inspection or During Inspection Interval	Next Required Inspection Interval
0	Refueling period
1	12 months + 25%
2	6 months \mp 25%
3,4	124 days \mp 25%
5,6,7	62 days \mp 25%
8 or more	31 days \mp 25%

The required inspection interval shall not be lengthened more than one step at a time.

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

- d. If the actions described in 3.6.4.b or c resulted in replacement or restoration to the operable status of the effected snubber(s), perform an engineering evaluation to determine if the components supported by the snubber(s) were adversely affected by the inoperability of the snubber.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

Snubbers may be categorized into two types (mechanical and hydraulic). These may then be classified as "accessible" or "inaccessible" based on accessibility for inspection during operation. These four groups may be inspected independently according to the above schedule.

(ii) Visual Inspection Acceptance Criteria

Visual inspections shall verify (1) that there are no visible indications of damage or impaired operability, (2) attachments to the foundation or supporting structure are secure, and (3) in those locations where snubber movement can be manually induced without disconnecting the snubber, that the snubber has freedom of movement and is not frozen up. Snubbers which appear inoperable as a result of visual inspections may be determined operable for the purpose of establishing the next visual inspection interval, providing that (1) the cause of the rejection is clearly established and remedied for that particular snubber and for other snubbers that may be generically susceptible; or (2) the affected snubber is functionally tested in the as found condition and determined operable per Specification 4.6.4.b as applicable.

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LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

b. Functional Testing

(i) Functional Test Frequency

At least once each refueling cycle, 10% of the total of each type (mechanical or hydraulic, accessible or inaccessible) of snubber in use in the plant shall be functionally tested either in place or in a bench test. For each snubber that does not meet the functional test acceptance criteria of 4.6.4b(ii) an additional 10% of that type of snubber shall be functionally tested.

(ii) Functional Test Acceptance Requirement

Hydraulic snubber functional test shall verify that:

1. Activation (restraining action) is achieved within the specified range of velocity.
2. Freedom of movement exists in both tension and compression.

Mechanical snubber functional test shall verify that:

1. The force that initiates free movement of the snubber rod in either tension or compression is less than the specified maximum drag force.

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

2. Activation (restraining action) is achieved within the specified range of velocity or acceleration in both tension and compression.

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BASES FOR 3.6.4 and 4.6.4 SHOCK SUPPRESSORS (SNUBBERS)

Snubbers are required to be operable to ensure that the structural integrity of the reactor coolant system and other safety related systems is maintained during and following a seismic or other event initiating dynamic loads.

The visual inspection frequency is based upon maintaining a constant level of snubber protection to systems. Therefore, the required inspection interval varies inversely with the number of observed snubber failures and is determined by the number of inoperable snubbers found during an inspection. Inspections performed before that interval has elapsed may be used as a new reference point to determine the next inspection. However, the results of such early inspections performed before the original required time interval has elapsed (nominal time less 25%) may not be used to lengthen the required inspection interval. Any inspection whose results require a shorter inspection interval will override the previous schedule.

Hydraulic or mechanical, accessible or inaccessible, snubbers may each be treated as a different entity for the above surveillance programs.



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 74 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-63

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-220

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated March 13, 1985, as supplemented and clarified by letter dated May 6, 1985, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC, the licensee) requested an amendment to Appendix A of Operating License No. DPR-63 for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1. The amendment request changes the Technical Specifications (TS) by deleting the list of required snubbers, providing surveillance requirements including frequency and acceptance criteria, and providing limiting conditions for operation (LCO) for the facility should snubbers be inoperable. This change was proposed to incorporate the provisions for snubber Technical Specifications transmitted to all power reactor licensees by Generic Letter 84-13 dated May 3, 1984. The above-stated application supersedes the licensee's previous submittals dated April 18, 1980, March 20, 1981 and October 5, 1983 regarding snubbers.

2.0 EVALUATION

The four proposed changes are as follows:

- a. Specification 3.6.4.a has been reworded to require that snubber operability be demonstrated during all operating conditions except cold shutdown. The only system required by the Technical Specifications to be operable during cold shutdown is the core spray system. If this system becomes inoperable due to inoperable snubbers, the shutdown cooling system would still be available to remove the decay heat. The Technical Specification also requires the licensee to repair or replace the inoperable snubbers within 72 hours of the discovery. Otherwise the supported system shall be declared inoperable. The proposed change is a marked improvement over the previous version of the Technical Specifications.
- b. The surveillance requirements for mechanical snubbers have been added to the Technical Specifications. Surveillance was not originally required for mechanical snubbers, yet recent records showed that mechanical snubbers are subjected to degradation and deterioration caused by service. Letters from D. G. Eisenhower to licensees dated November 20, 1980 and March 23, 1981 requested that mechanical snubbers be inspected and tested. This proposed addition is

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also an improvement over the previous version of the Technical Specifications.

- c. A more definitive acceptance criterion is proposed for the functional testing of hydraulic snubbers. Previously, hydraulic snubbers were functionally tested but without clear acceptance criterion. The proposed addition will enhance the surveillance requirements in the Technical Specifications.
- d. The table of safety-related hydraulic snubbers is deleted. This request follows the guidance of NRC Generic Letter 84-13 which permits the deletion of tables of safety-related snubbers from present Technical Specifications of all operating plants but does not change the bookkeeping requirements. This deletion is acceptable.

The staff finds that the proposed revisions to the Limiting Conditions for Operation, the surveillance requirements and Bases for safety-related snubbers will result in a Technical Specification for Nine Mile Point, Unit No. 1 which is generally consistent with current Standard Technical Specifications and will enhance the Nine Mile Point, Unit No. 1 operating safety. The staff therefore finds that the proposed revisions are acceptable.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

This amendment involves a change in the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes in surveillance requirements. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that this amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

4.0 CONCLUSION

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: H. Shaw

Dated: September 23, 1985