

March 8, 1984

FOR DOCKET ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR: James R. Miller, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Division of Licensing

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION IN MONTHLY FR NOTICE - NOTICE OF
CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING
LICENSE AND PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION
DETERMINATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Docket No. 50-220, Nine Mile Point

Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1, Oswego County, New York

Date of amendment request: January 5, 1984

Description of amendment request: The proposed amendment changes the section of the Technical Specifications pertaining to instrumentation that initiates or isolates emergency cooling and the respective bases. Currently, the emergency condensers are automatically isolated on two parameters, namely, high system flow and high radiation in the emergency cooling system shell vent. This amendment proposes to remove the automatic isolation on high radiation, leaving the high radiation signal for alarm only.

Basis for proposed no significant hazards consideration determination:

The licensee has presented its determination of significant hazards considerations as follows:

The Commission has provided guidance concerning the determination of significant hazards by providing certain examples (48 FR 14870) of amendments considered not likely to involve significant hazards consideration. One of the examples (vi), relates to a change which

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either may result in some increase to the probability or consequences of a previously-analyzed accident or may reduce in some way a safety margin, but where the results of the change are clearly within all acceptable criteria with respect to the system or component specified in the Standard Review Plan. The proposed change would increase the availability of the emergency condensers by reducing the likelihood of spurious isolation due to local radiation from a source other than the emergency condensers. However, relying on manual rather than automatic isolation could increase the time to isolate the emergency condensers for a leak in the emergency condenser tubing. This could result in some increase in activity to the environment. This item was addressed in a Safety Evaluation (SE) for Nine Mile Point Unit 1 dated December 15, 1981 for TMI Action Plan Item II.K.3.14, NUREG-0737. In the Safety Evaluation, Nine Mile Point Unit 1 was found acceptable, based on automatic isolation of the emergency condenser on high radiation signals. In the same SE, other units were found acceptable with manual operator action being required to isolate the emergency condensers on high radiation signal alarms. Therefore, since this change may result in some increase in the consequences of previously analyzed events but is within previously accepted staff criteria, the change is similar to example (vi).

The staff has reviewed the licensee's significant hazards considerations determinations and based upon this review, the staff has made a proposed determination that the application for amendment involves no significant hazards considerations.

either may result in some increase to the probability or consequences of a previously-analyzed accident or may reduce in some way a safety margin, but where the results of the change are clearly within all acceptable criteria with respect to the system or component specified in the Standard Review Plan. The proposed change would increase the availability of the emergency condensers by reducing the likelihood of spurious isolation due to local radiation from a source other than the emergency condensers. However, relying on manual rather than automatic isolation could increase the time to isolate the emergency condensers for a leak in the emergency condenser tubing. This could result in some increase in activity to the environment. Therefore, since this change may result in some increase in the consequences of previously analyzed events but is within previously accepted staff criteria, the change is similar to example (vi).

The staff has reviewed the licensee's significant hazards considerations determinations and based upon this review, the staff has made a proposed determination that the application for amendment involves no significant hazards considerations.

Local Public Document Room location: State University College at Oswego, Penfield Library - Documents, Oswego, New York 13126.

Attorney for licensee: Troy B. Conner, Jr., Esquire, Conner & Wetterhahn, Suite 1050, 1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

NRC Branch Chief: Domenic B. Vassallo

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*Please see previous concurrence page.

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Per telecon
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