



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 19, 1998

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia
Executive Vice President Generation
Business Group and Chief Nuclear Officer
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nuclear Learning Center
450 Lake Road
Oswego, NY 13126

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT FOR NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT
NO. 1 (TAC NO. M98841)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 160 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-63 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit No. 1. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application transmitted by letter dated October 21, 1997, and supplemented by letter dated February 3, 1998. The application superseded your previous application of May 16, 1997.

This amendment revises administrative requirements regarding the unit staff positions of General Supervisor Operation and Manager Operations as stated in TS 6.2.2.i and 6.3.1.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register Notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darl S. Hood".

Darl S. Hood, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-220

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 160 to
Facility Operating License
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

B. Ralph Sylvia
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Unit No. 1

cc:

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**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-220

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 160
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 October 21, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated February 3, 1998, 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 1;
 - 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. NPF-69 is hereby amended to read as follows:

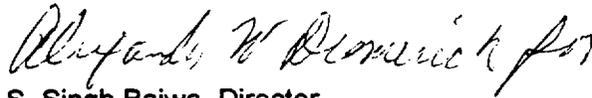
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(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, both of which are attached hereto, as revised through Amendment No. 160 are hereby incorporated into this license. Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance and is to be implemented within 30 days.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



S. Singh Bajwa, Director
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: February 19, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE

AMENDMENT NO.160 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-63

DOCKET NO. 50-220

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached pages. The revised pages are identified by Amendment number and contain a vertical line indicating the area of change.

Remove

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Insert

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g. DELETED

h. Administrative procedures shall be developed and implemented to limit the working hours of facility staff who perform safety-related functions; e.g., licensed Senior Operators, licensed Operators, health physicists, auxiliary operators and key maintenance personnel.

Adequate shift coverage shall be maintained without routine heavy use of overtime. The objective shall be to have operating personnel work an 8 to 12 hour day, nominal 40-hour week while the facility is operating. However, in the event that unforeseen problems require substantial amounts of overtime to be used, or during extended periods of shutdown for refueling, major maintenance or major plant modifications on a temporary basis, the following guidelines shall be followed:

- 1) An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours straight (excluding shift turnover time).
- 2) An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours in any 24-hour period, nor more than 24 hours in any 48-hour period, nor more than 72 hours in any 7 day period (all excluding shift turnover time).
- 3) A break of at least 8-hours should be allowed between work periods (including shift turnover time).
- 4) Except during extended shutdown periods, the use of overtime should be considered on an individual basis and not for the entire staff on a shift.

Any deviation from the above guidelines shall be authorized by the Plant Manager, or higher levels of management, in accordance with established procedures and with documentation of the basis for granting the deviation. Controls shall be included in the procedures such that individual overtime shall be reviewed monthly by the Vice President and General Manager - Nuclear or designee to assure that excessive hours have not been assigned. Routine deviation from the above guidelines is not authorized.

i. As a minimum, either the Manager Operations or the General Supervisor Operations shall hold a senior reactor operator license. The Station Shift Supervisor Nuclear and Assistant Station Shift Supervisor Nuclear shall hold senior reactor operator licenses. Only licensed individuals may direct licensed activities.

6.3 Facility Staff Qualifications

6.3.1 Each member of the unit staff shall meet or exceed the minimum qualifications of ANSI N18.1-1971 for comparable positions, except for; the Manager Operations who, in lieu of meeting the senior reactor operator license requirements of ANSI N18.1-1971, shall 1) hold a senior reactor operator license at the time of appointment, or 2) have held a senior reactor operator license at Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit 1 or at a similar unit, or 3) have been certified for equivalent senior reactor operator knowledge; the Manager Radiation Protection who shall meet or exceed the qualifications of Regulatory Guide 1.8, September 1975; and the Shift Technical Advisor who shall have a bachelor's degree in a physical science or engineering or a professional engineer license issued by examination and shall have received specific training in plant design, and response and analysis of the plant for transients and accidents.

6.4 Training

6.4.1 A retraining and replacement training program for the facility staff shall be maintained under the direction of the Manager Training and shall meet or exceed the recommendations and requirements of Section 5.5 of ANSI N18.1-1971 and of 10CFR Part 55, and shall include familiarization with relevant industry operational experience.

6.4.2 A training program for the Fire Brigade shall be maintained under the direction of the Manager Training and Supervisor-Fire Protection, Nuclear and shall meet or exceed the requirements of Appendix R to 10CFR50.

6.5 Review and Audit

6.5.1 Station Operations Review Committee (SORC)

Function

6.5.1.1 The Station Operations Review Committee shall function to advise the Plant Manager on all matters related to nuclear safety.

Composition

6.5.1.2 The SORC shall be composed of the:

Chairman:	Plant Manager
Vice Chairman/Member:	Manager Operations
Vice Chairman/Member:	Manager Technical Support
Member:	Manager QA Operations
Member:	Manager Maintenance
Member:	Manager Chemistry
Member:	Manager Radiation Protection



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO.160 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 letter dated May 16, 1997, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) submitted a license amendment request for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (NMP1), to change Technical Specification (TS) 6.2.2i to reflect a proposed organizational change to unit staff. The proposed TS change would reflect the reestablishment of the position of General Supervisor Operations (GSO), a position NMPC had eliminated in December 1996 during the implementation of Amendment No. 158. Following initial NRC staff review and subsequent discussions with NMPC regarding the May 16, 1997, submittal, NMPC provided a new submittal on October 21, 1997, that superseded the May 16, 1997, submittal in its entirety. The October 21, 1997, submittal included changes to TS 6.3.1 that were not included in the May 16, 1997, submittal. The proposed changes would no longer require the Operations Manager to hold a Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) license at the time of initial appointment to the position and would allow either the Operations Manager or the GSO to hold a license to meet the requirement of 10 CFR 50.54(l) that the licensee "designate individuals to be responsible for directing the licensed activities of licensed operators. These individuals shall be licensed as senior operators...." On February 3, 1998, NMPC supplemented the application to add a sentence to TS 6.2.2i stating that "Only licensed individuals may direct licensed activities."

The February 3, 1998, letter provided supplemental information in support of the October 21, 1997, application for amendment and does not affect the Commission's finding of no significant hazards consideration or expand the scope of the original Federal Register notice (62 FR 59919, November 5, 1997).

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2.0 EVALUATION

The description of the GSO position contained in the October 21, 1997, submittal indicates that the position is equivalent to an "Operations Middle Manager" as defined in American National Standard Institute (ANSI)/ANS standards. However, NMPC states that the GSO will meet the same minimum education and experience requirements as the Operations Manager as specified in ANSI N18.1-1971, "Selection and Training of Nuclear Power Plant Personnel." Further, NMPC states in its submittal that the GSO will meet the requirements of having an SRO license at the time of appointment.

NMPC proposes to revise its commitment to the ANSI requirements contained in TS 6.3.1 by adding an exception for the position of Operations Manager. NMPC's commitment to ANSI N18.1-1971 currently requires the Operations Manager to hold an SRO license at the time of appointment to the active position. The proposed exception would allow the Operations Manager, in lieu of meeting the ANSI N18.1 requirement of holding an SRO license, to (1) hold an SRO license at the time of appointment, or (2) have held a license at NMP1 or a similar unit, or (3) have been certified for equivalent SRO knowledge. This approach is supported by ANSI/ANS 3.1-1987 and 3.1-1993, "American National Standards for Selection and Training of Nuclear Power Plant Personnel," which allow individuals to be appointed to the position of Operations Manager based on the options proposed by NMPC for TS 6.3.1. These 1987 and 1993 standards further state that if the Operation Manager does not hold a license, then the Operations Middle Manager shall hold an SRO license. NMPC's proposed change to TS 6.2.2i reflects the requirement that one of the positions must hold a license.

10 CFR 50.54(l) requires that the individuals designated by a licensee to direct the licensed activities of licensed operators shall be licensed as senior operators. Consistant with this regulation, NMPC supplemented the application by letter dated February 3, 1998, to add a sentence to the end of TS 6.2.2i stating that "Only licensed individuals may direct licensed activities."

Accordingly, the NRC staff concludes that proposed TS 6.2.2i, requiring that either the Operations Manager or the GSO hold a NMP1 SRO license, is consistent with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.54(l) and ensures that a licensed off-shift senior operator will direct the licensed activities of the licensed operators. Further, requiring an ANSI/ANS qualified and licensed GSO when the Operations Manager does not hold an NMP1 SRO license is consistent with the requirements of ANSI N18.1-1971 and ensures there is site-specific, detailed, and relevant knowledge of technical and systems aspects in a senior operations management position. The NRC staff concludes that the proposed changes to NMP1 TS 6.2.2i and 6.3.1, re-establishing the position of GSO and modifying the commitment to ANSI N18.1-1971 for the Operations Manager, is consistent with and meets the intent of the relevant review criteria and is, therefore, acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New York State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment changes recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). 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.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has 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, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: M. Biamonte
D. Hood

Date: February 19, 1998

DATED: February 19, 1998

AMENDMENT NO¹⁶⁰ TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-63-NINE MILE POINT
NUCLEAR POWER STATION UNIT NO. 1

Docket File

PUBLIC

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