

Docket No. 50-410

October 26, 1988

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Mr. Charles V. Mangan
Senior Vice President
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Dear Mr. Mangan:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (TAC NO. 69531)

Enclosed is a copy of a "Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This notice relates to your application dated September 16, 1988 for a exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR Part 50.71(e) for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2.

The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Mary F. Haughey, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects, I/II

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc: w/enclosure
See next page

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Mary F. Haughey
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Mangan
Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Unit 2

cc:

Mr. Troy B. Conner, Jr., Esq.
Conner & Wetterhahn
Suite 1050
1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Regional Administrator, Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Mr. Richard Goldsmith
Syracuse University
College of Law
E. I. White Hall Campus
Syracuse, New York 12223

Mr. Paul D. Eddy
New York State Public Service
Commission
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station -
Unit 2
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, New York 13093

Resident Inspector
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station
P. O. Box 99
Lycoming, New York 13093

Mr. Richard M. Kessel
Chair and Executive Director
State Consumer Protection Board
99 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12210

Mr. Gary D. Wilson, Esquire
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Mr. Richard Abbott, Unit 2 Station
Superintendent
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
P. O. Box 32
Lycoming, NY 13093

Mr. Peter E. Francisco, Licensing
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Mr. James L. Willis, General Supt.,
Nuclear Generation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
P. O. Box 32
Lycoming, New York 13093

Ms. Donna Ross
New York State Energy Office
2 Empire State Plaza
16th Floor
Albany, New York 12223

Charlie Donaldson, Esquire
Assistant Attorney General
New York Department of Law
120 Broadway
New York, New York 10271

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONNIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATIONNINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2DOCKET NO. 50-410NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuing an exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR Part 50.71(e)(3)(i), to the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee), for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (NMP-2), located at the licensee's site in Oswego County New York.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed action would exempt the licensee from meeting certain requirements of 10 CFR Part 50.71(e)(3)(i). Specifically, 10 CFR Part 50.71(e)(3)(i) requires licensees to submit a revision of the original FSAR containing those original pages that are still applicable plus new replacement pages within 24 months of either July 22, 1980 or the date of issuance of the operating license, whichever is later. 10 CFR Part 50.71(e)(3)(i) also requires this revision of the FSAR to be up-to-date as of a maximum of 6 months prior to the date of filing the revision. A license limited to 5 percent of rated power was issued for NMP-2 on October 31, 1986, and a license authorizing operation up to 100 percent of rated power was issued July 2, 1987. The exemption would allow the licensee to delay the submittal of the updated Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) for Nine Mile Point, Unit 2 (NMP-2) for approximately six months or no later than April 30, 1989. In addition, the

exemption would allow the licensee to submit only the revised pages of the FSAR rather than submitting a complete, updated FSAR. When the updated FSAR is submitted no later than April 30, 1989 it will be updated to April 30, 1988. Although this will be up to a year before the actual submittal date, it is only six months before the original required submittal date.

The licensee's request for exemption, and the basis therefor are contained in its letter of September 16, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The exemption is required in order to permit the licensee to delay the submittal of the updated FSAR and to submit only those pages revised since the last FSAR amendment in May 1987. The NMP-2 FSAR is unusually large (35 volumes) and substantial effort, over 55,000 person hours, is estimated to be involved in the project.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The exemption would allow submittal of the updated FSAR to be delayed six months. The exemption would also permit the licensee to submit only those pages of the FSAR which have been revised. This exemption is administrative and will not affect plant hardware or procedures.

The proposed exemption affects only the method by which the FSAR is kept up-to-date and does not affect plant operation or the risk of facility accidents. Accordingly, the exemption will not increase the probability or consequences of any reactor accident sequence and will not increase the probability or consequences of any reactor accident sequence and will not otherwise affect any other

radiological impact associated with the facility. Consequently, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed exemption does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

The staff has concluded that there is no significant environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption. Therefore, alternatives to the exemption will have either no environmental impact or greater environmental impact.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. Such action would not reduce the environmental impacts of the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 operations.

Alternative Use of Resources:

These actions associated with the granting of the proposed exemption as detailed above do not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the "Final Environmental Statement Related to Operation of Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 2," dated May 1985.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's submittal that supports the proposed exemption discussed above. The NRC staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for the exemption as listed herein, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the Penfield Library, State University College, Oswego, New York 13126.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 27 day of October 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Robert A. Capra, Director
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects, I/II

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LA:CVogan
10/17/88

PDI-1
PD:RCapra
10/ /88

M. Haughey
PDI-1
PM:MHaughey:d1g
10/17/88

~~PD1A
AD:BBoger
10/ /88~~

[Signature]
OGC
10/15/88

~~DRPR
D. S. Varga
10/ /88~~