

August 21, 1989

Docket No. 50-220

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Mr. Lawrence Burkhardt III
Executive Vice President, Nuclear Operations
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Dear Mr. Burkhardt:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT (TAC NO. 73040)

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 109 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-63 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit No. 1 (NMP-1). The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your application transmitted by letter dated April 25, 1989, as supplemented June 16, 1989.

This amendment revises the Technical Specifications which contain cycle-specific parameter limits by replacing the values of those limits with a reference to a Core Operating Limits Report for the values of those limits. These changes are in accordance with Generic Letter 88-16.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next regular bi-weekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Marylee M. Slosson, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 109 to DPR-63
2. Safety Evaluation

cc: w/enclosures
See next page

[AMEND 73040]
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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 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 109
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 April 25, 1989, as supplemented June 16, 1989, 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. 109, 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

Robert A. Capra

Robert A. Capra, 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: August 21, 1989

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT

AMENDMENT NO. 109 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-63

DOCKET NO. 50-220

Revise Appendix A as follows:

Remove Pages

4c
20
63
64a
64b
64c
65
66
67
68
69
69a
69a1
70
70a
70b
70d
265

Insert Pages

4c
20
63
64a
64b
64c
65
66
67
68
69
69a
69a1
70
70a
70b
70d
265
265a

1.28 Ventilation Exhaust Treatment System

A ventilation exhaust treatment system is any system designed and installed to reduce gaseous radioiodine or radioactive material in particulate form in effluents by passing ventilation or vent exhaust gases through charcoal adsorbers and/or HEPA filters for the purpose of removing iodines or particulates from the gaseous exhaust stream prior to the release to the environment. Such a system is not considered to have any effect on noble gas effluents. Engineered Safety Feature (ESF) atmospheric cleanup systems are not considered to be ventilation exhaust treatment system components.

1.29 Venting

Venting is the controlled process of discharging air or gas from a confinement to maintain temperature, pressure, humidity, concentration, or other operating condition, in such a manner that replacement air or gas is not provided or required during venting. Vent, used in system names, does not imply a venting process.

1.30 Reactor Coolant Leakage

a. Identified Leakage

- (1) Leakage into closed systems, such as pump seal or valve packing leaks that are captured, flow metered and conducted to a sump or collecting tank, or
- (2) Leakage into the primary containment atmosphere from sources that are both specifically located and known not to be from a through-wall crack in the piping within the reactor coolant pressure boundary.

b. Unidentified Leakage

All other leakage of reactor coolant into the primary containment area.

1.31 Core Operating Limits Report

The CORE OPERATING LIMITS REPORT is the unit-specific document that provides core operating limits for the current operating reload cycle. These cycle-specific core operating limits shall be determined for each reload cycle in accordance with Specification 6.9.1f. Plant operation within these operating limits is addressed in individual specifications.

REFERENCES FOR BASES 2.1.1 AND 2.1.2 FUEL CLADDING

- (1) General Electric BWR Thermal Analysis Basis (GETAB) Data, Correlation and Design Application, NEDO-10958 and NEDE-10958.
- (2) Linford, R. B., "Analytical Methods of Plant Transient Evaluations for the General Electric Boiling Water Reactor," NEDO-10801, February 1973.
- (3) FSAR, Volume II, Appendix E.
- (4) FSAR, Second Supplement.
- (5) FSAR, Volume II, Appendix E.
- (6) FSAR, Second Supplement.
- (7) Letters, Peter A. Morris, Director of Reactor Licensing, USAEC, to John E. Logan, Vice-President, Jersey Central Power and Light Company, dated November 22, 1967 and January 9, 1968.
- (8) Technical Supplement to Petition to Increase Power Level, dated April 1970.
- (9) Letter, T. J. Brosnan, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, to Peter A. Morris, Division of Reactor Licensing, USAEC, dated February 28, 1972.
- (10) Letter, Philip D. Raymond, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, to A. Giambusso, USAEC, dated October 15, 1973.
- (11) Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station Unit 1 Load Line Limit Analysis, NEDO 24012, May, 1977.
- (12) Licensing Topical Report "General Electric Standard Application for Reactor Fuel," NEDE-24011-P-A, latest approved revision.
- (13) Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station Unit 1, Extended Load Line Limit Analysis, License Amendment Submittal(Cycle 6), NEDO-24185, April 1979.
- (14) General Electric SIL 299 "High Drywell Temperature Effect on Reactor Vessel Water Level Instrumentation."
- (15) Letter (and attachments) from C. Thomas (NRC) to J. Charnley (GE) dated May 28, 1985, "Acceptance for Referencing of Licensing Topical Report NEDE-24011-P-B, Amendment 10."

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

3.1.7 FUEL RODS

Applicability:

The Limiting Conditions for Operation associated with the fuel rods apply to those parameters which monitor the fuel rod operating conditions.

Objective:

The objective of the Limiting Conditions for Operation is to assure the performance of the fuel rods.

Specification:

a. Average Planar Linear Heat Generation Rate (APLHGR)

During power operation, the APLHGR for each type of fuel as a function of average planar exposure shall not exceed the limiting value provided in the Core Operating Limits Report. If at any time during power operation it is determined by normal surveillance that the limiting value for APLHGR is being exceeded at any node in the core, action shall be initiated within 15 minutes to restore operation to within the prescribed limits. If the APLHGR at all nodes in the core is not returned to within the prescribed limits within two (2) hours, reactor power reductions shall be initiated at a rate not less than 10% per hour until APLHGR at all nodes is within the prescribed limits.

4.1.7 FUEL RODS

Applicability:

The Surveillance Requirements apply to the parameters which monitor the fuel rod operating conditions.

Objective:

The objective of the Surveillance Requirements is to specify the type and frequency of surveillance to be applied to the fuel rods.

Specification:

a. Average Planar Linear Heat Generation Rate (APLHGR)

The APLHGR for each type of fuel as a function of average planar exposure shall be determined daily during reactor operation at ≥ 25 percent rated thermal power.

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

c. Minimum Critical Power Ratio (MCPR)

During power operation, the MCPR for all fuel at rated power and flow shall be within the limit provided in the Core Operating Limits Report.

If at any time during power operation it is determined by normal surveillance that the above limit is no longer met, action shall be initiated within 15 minutes to restore operation to within the prescribed limit. If all the operating MCPRs are not returned to within the prescribed limit within two (2) hours, reactor power reductions shall be initiated at a rate not less than 10% per hour until MCPR is within the prescribed limit.

For core flows other than rated, the MCPR limit shall be the limit identified above times K_f where K_f is provided in the Core Operating Limits Report.

d. Power Flow Relationship During Operation

The power/flow relationship shall not exceed the limiting values shown in Figure 3.1.7.aa.

c. Minimum Critical Power Ratio (MCPR)

MCPR shall be determined daily during reactor power operation at >25% rated thermal power.

d. Power Flow Relationship

Compliance with the power flow relationship in Section 3.1.7.d shall be determined daily during reactor operation.

e. Partial Loop Operation

Under partial loop operation, surveillance requirements 4.1.7,a,b,c and d above are applicable.

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

If at any time during power operation, it is determined by normal surveillance that the limiting value for the power/flow relationship is being exceeded, action shall be initiated with 15 minutes to restore operation to within the prescribed limits. If the power/flow relationship is not returned to within the prescribed limits within two (2) hours, reactor power reductions shall be initiated at a rate not less than 10% per hour until the power/flow relationship is within the prescribed limits.

e. Partial Loop Operation

During power operation, partial loop operation is permitted provided the following conditions are met.

When operating with four recirculation loops in operation and the remaining loop unisolated, the reactor may operate at 100 percent of full licensed power level in accordance with Figure 3.1.7aa and an APLHGR not to exceed the applicable limiting values provided in the Core Operating Limits Report for the fuel type.

When operating with four recirculation loops in operation and one loop isolated, the reactor may operate at 100 percent of full licensed power in accordance with Figure 3.1.7aa and an APLHGR not to exceed the applicable limiting values provided in the Core Operating Limits Report for the fuel type, provided the following conditions are met for the isolated loop.

1. Suction valve, discharge valve and discharge bypass valve in the isolated loop shall be in the closed position and the associated motor breakers shall be locked in the open position.

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT

2. Associated pump motor circuit breaker shall be opened and the breaker removed.

If these conditions are not met, core power shall be restricted to 90.5 percent of full licensed power.

When operating with three recirculation loops in operation and the two remaining loops isolated or unisolated, the reactor may operate at 90% of full licensed power in accordance with Figure 3.1.7aa and an APLHGR not to exceed the applicable limiting values provided in the Core Operating Limits Report for the fuel type.

During 3 loop operation, the limiting MCPR shall be adjusted as described in the Core Operating Limits Report.

Power operation is not permitted with less than three recirculation loops in operation.

If at any time during power operation, it is determined by normal surveillance that the limiting value for APLHGR under one and two isolated loop operation is being exceeded at any node in the core, action shall be initiated within 15 minutes to restore operation to within the prescribed limits. If the APLHGR at all nodes in the core is not returned to within the prescribed limits for one and two isolated loop operation within two (2) hours, reactor power reduction shall be initiated at a rate not less than 10 percent per hour until APLHGR at all nodes is within the prescribed limits.

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BASES FOR 3.1.7 AND 4.1.7 FUEL RODS

Average Planar Linear Heat Generation Rate (APLHGR)

This specification assures that the peak cladding temperature and the peak local cladding oxidation following the postulated design basis loss-of-coolant accident will not exceed the limits specified in 10CFR50, Appendix K.

The peak cladding temperature following a postulated loss-of-coolant accident is primarily a function of the average heat generation rate of all the rods of a fuel assembly at any axial location and is only dependent secondarily on the rod-to-rod power distribution within an assembly. Since expected local variations in power distribution within a fuel assembly affect the calculated peak clad temperature by less than $\pm 20^\circ\text{F}$ relative to the peak temperature for a typical fuel design, the limit on the average linear heat generation rate is sufficient to assure that calculated temperatures are within the 10CFR50, Appendix K limit. The limiting value for APLHGR is provided in the Core Operating Limits Report. The APLHGR curves in the Core Operating Limits Report are based on calculations using the models described in References 13, 15 and 16.

The Reference 13 and 15 LOCA analyses are sensitive to minimum critical power ratio (MCPR). In the Reference 15, analysis a MCPR value of 1.30 was assumed. If future transient analyses should yield a MCPR limit below this value, the Reference 15 LOCA analysis MCPR value would become limiting. The current MCPR limit is provided in the Core Operating Limits Report. For fuel bundles analyzed with the Reference 13 LOCA methodology, assume MCPR values of 1.30 and 1.36 for five recirculation loop and less than five loop operation respectively.

Linear Heat Generation Rate (LHGR)

This specification assures that the linear heat generation rate in any rod is less than the design linear heat generation even if fuel pellet densification is postulated (Reference 12). The LHGR shall be checked daily during reactor operation at $\geq 25\%$ power to determine if fuel burnup or control rod movement has caused changes in power distribution.

Minimum Critical Power Ratio (MCPR)

At core thermal power levels less than or equal to 25%, the reactor will be operating at a minimum recirculation pump speed and the moderator void content will be very small. For all designated control rod patterns which may be employed at this point, operating plant experience and thermal-hydraulic analysis indicated that the resulting MCPR value is in excess of requirements by a considerable margin. With this low void content, any inadvertent core flow increase would only place operation in a more conservative mode relative to MCPR. During initial startup testing

of the plant, a MCPR evaluation will be made at the 25% thermal power level with minimum recirculation pump speed. The MCPR margin will thus be demonstrated such that future MCPR evaluations below this power level will be shown to be unnecessary. The daily requirement for calculating MCPR above 25% rated thermal power is sufficient since power distribution shifts are very slow when there have not been significant power or control rod changes. The requirement for calculating MCPR when a limiting control rod pattern is approached ensures that MCPR will be known following a change in power or power shape (regardless of magnitude) that could place operation at a thermal limit.

MCPR limits during operation at other than rated conditions are provided in the Core Operating Limits Report. For the case of automatic flow control, the K_f factor is determined such that any automatic increase in power (due to flow control) will always result in arriving at the nominal required MCPR at 100% power. For manual flow control, the K_f is determined such that an inadvertent increase in core flow (i.e., operator error or recirculation pump speed controller failure) would result in arriving at the 99.9% limit MCPR when core flow reaches the maximum possible core flow corresponding to a particular setting of the recirculation pump MG set scoop tube maximum speed control limiting set screws. These screws are to be calibrated and set to a particular value and whenever the plant is operating in manual flow control the K_f defined by that setting of the screws is to be used in the determination of required MCPR. This will assure that the reduction in MCPR associated with an inadvertent flow increase always satisfies the 99.9% requirement. Irrespective of the scoop tube setting, the required MCPR is never allowed to be less than the nominal MCPR (i.e., K_f is never less than unity).

Power/Flow Relationship

The power/flow curve is the locus of critical power as a function of flow from which the occurrence of abnormal operating transients will yield results within defined plant safety limits. Each transient and postulated accident applicable to operation of the plant was analyzed along the power/flow line. The analysis (7, 8, 12, 14) justifies the operating envelope bounded by the power/flow curve as long as other operating limits are satisfied. Operation under the power/flow line is designed to enable the direct ascension to full power within the design basis for the plant.

Partial Loop Operation

The requirements of Specification 3.1.7e for partial loop operation in which the idle loop is isolated, precludes the inadvertent startup of a recirculation pump with a cold leg. However, if these conditions cannot be met, power level is restricted to 90.5 percent power based on current transient analysis (Reference 9). For three loop operation, power level is restricted to 90 percent power based on the Reference 13 and 15 LOCA analyses.

The results of the ECCS calculation are affected by one or more recirculation loops being unisolated and out of service. This is due to the fact that credit is taken for extended nucleate boiling caused by flow coastdown in the unbroken loops. The reduced core flow coastdown following the break results in higher peak clad temperature due to an earlier boiling transition time. The results of the ECCS calculations are also affected by one or more recirculation loops being isolated and out of service. The mass of water in the isolated loops unavailable during blowdown results in an earlier uncover time for the hot node. This results in an increase in the peak clad temperature.

For fuel bundles analyzed with the methodology used in Reference 13, MAPLHGR shall be reduced as required in the Core Operating Limits Report for 4 and 3 loop operation. For fuel bundles analyzed with the methodology used in References 15 and 16, MAPLHGR shall be reduced as required in the Core Operating Limits Report for both 4 and 3 loop operation.

Partial loop operation and its effect on lower plenum flow distribution is summarized in Reference 11. Since the lower plenum hydraulic design in a non-jet pump reactor is virtually identical to a jet pump reactor, application of these results is justified. Additionally, non-jet pump plants contain a cylindrical baffle plate which surrounds the guide tubes and distributes the impinging water jet and forces flow in a circumferential direction around the outside of the baffle.

Recirculation Loops

Requiring the suction and discharge for at least two (2) recirculation loops to be fully open assures that an adequate flow path exists from the annular region between the pressure vessel wall and the core shroud, to the core region. This provides for communication between those areas, thus assuring that reactor water level instrument readings are indicative of the water level in the core region.

When the reactor vessel is flooded to the level of the main steam line nozzle, communication between the core region and annulus exists above the core to ensure that indicative water level monitoring in the core region exists. When the steam separators and dryer are removed, safety limit 2.1.1d and e requires water level to be higher than 9 feet below minimum normal water level (Elevation 302'9"). This level is above the core shroud elevation which would ensure communication between the core region and annulus thus ensuring indicative water level monitoring in the core region. Therefore, maintaining a recirculation loop in the full open position in these two instances are not necessary to ensure indicative water level monitoring.

REFERENCES FOR BASES 3.1.7 AND 4.1.7 FUEL RODS

References (1) thru (6) intentionally deleted.

- (7) "Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station Unit 1, Load Line Limit Analysis," NEDO-24012.
- (8) Licensing Topical Report GE Boiling Water Reactor Generic Reload Fuel Application, NEDE-24011-P-A, August 1978.
- (9) Final Safety Analysis Report, Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, June 1967.
- (10) NRC Safety Evaluation, Amendment No. 24 to DPR-63 contained in letter from G. Lear, NRC, to D. P. Dise dated May 15, 1978.
- (11) "Core Flow Distribution in a GE Boiling Water Reactor as Measured in Quad Cities Unit 1," NEDO-10722A.
- (12) Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station Unit 1, Extended Load Line Limit Analysis, License Amendment Submittal (Cycle 6), NEDO-24185, April 1979.
- (13) Loss-of-Coolant Accident Analysis Report for Nine Mile Point Unit 1 Nuclear Power Station, NEDO-24348, Aug. 1981.
- (14) GE Boiling Water Reactor Extended Load Line Limit Analysis for Nine Mile Point Unit 1 Cycle 9, NEDC-31126, February 1986.
- (15) Nine Mile Point Unit 1, Loss-of-Coolant Accident Analysis, NEDC-31446P, June 1987.
- (16) Supplement 1 to Nine Mile Point Generating Station Unit 1 SAFER/CORECOOL/GESTR-LOCA Analysis Report NEDC-31446P-1, Class III, September 1987.

6.9.1 Routine Reports (cont'd)

Changes to the Offsite Dose Calculation Manual (ODCM): Shall be reported to the Commission in the Semiannual Radioactive Effluent Release Report for the period in which the change(s) was made effective. This submittal shall contain:

- a. Sufficiently detailed information to totally support the rationale for the change without benefit of additional or supplemental information. Information submitted should consist of a package of those pages of the Offsite Dose Calculation Manual to be changed, together with appropriate analyses or evaluations justifying the change(s);
- b. A determination that the change will not reduce the accuracy or reliability of dose calculations or setpoint determinations; and
- c. Documentation of the fact that the change has been reviewed and found acceptable.

f. CORE OPERATING LIMITS REPORT

- .1 Core operating limits shall be established prior to each reload cycle, or prior to any remaining portion of a reload cycle for the following:
 - 1) The AVERAGE PLANAR LINEAR HEAT GENERATION RATE (APLHGR) for Specification 3.1.7.a and 3.1.7.e.
 - 2) The K_f core flow adjustment factor for Specification 3.1.7.c.
 - 3) The MINIMUM CRITICAL POWER RATIO (MCPR) for Specification 3.1.7.c and 3.1.7.e.and shall be documented in the CORE OPERATING LIMITS REPORT.
- .2 The analytical methods used to determine the core operating limits shall be those previously reviewed and approved by the NRC, specifically those described in the following documents.
 - 1) NEDE-24011-P-A "GENERAL ELECTRIC STANDARD APPLICATION FOR REACTOR FUEL" (Latest approved revision).
 - 2) NEDE-30966-P-A "SAFER MODEL FOR EVALUATION OF LOSS-OF-COOLANT ACCIDENTS FOR JET PUMP AND NON-JET PUMP PLANTS" (Latest Approved Revisions)
Vol I "SAFER LONG TERM INVENTORY MODEL FOR BWR LOSS-OF-COOLANT ACCIDENT ANALYSIS"
Vol II "SAFER APPLICATION METHODOLOGY FOR NON-JET PUMP PLANTS"

3) NEDO-20556-P-A "GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY ANALYTICAL MODEL FOR LOSS-OF-COOLANT ACCIDENT ANALYSIS IN ACCORDANCE WITH 10CFR50 APPENDIX K". (Latest approved revision)

- .3 The core operating limits shall be determined such that all applicable limits (e.g., fuel thermal-mechanical limits, core thermal-hydraulic limits, ECCS limits, nuclear limits such as shutdown margin, transient analysis limits, and accident analysis limits) of the safety analysis are met.
- .4 The CORE OPERATING LIMITS REPORT, including any mid-cycle revisions or supplements shall be provided, upon issuance for each reload cycle, to the NRC Document Control Desk with copies to the Regional Administrator and Resident Inspector.

6.9.2 Fire Protection Program Reports

- a. Submit a special report ^{IN ACCORDANCE WITH 10CFR50.4 OMB 7/26/88} ~~to the appropriate regional office~~ as follows:
^{REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR OMB 7/26/88}
- Notify the ~~Director~~ of the appropriate Regional Office by telephone within 24 hours.
 - Confirm by telegraph, mailgram or facsimile transmission no later than the first working day following the event, and
 - Follow-up in writing within 14 days after the event outlining the action taken, the cause of the inoperability and the plans and schedule for restoring the system to an operable status.
- b. Submit a special report ^{IN ACCORDANCE WITH 10CFR50.4 OMB 7/26/88} ~~to the Director of the appropriate Regional Office~~ within 30 days following the event outlining the plans and procedures to be used to restore the inoperable equipment to an operable status.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 109 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 April 25, 1989, as amended by letter dated June 16, 1989, the Niagra Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee) proposed changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) for Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP1). The proposed changes would modify specifications having cycle-specific parameter limits by replacing the values of those limits with a reference to the Core Operating Limits Report (COLR) for the values of those limits. The proposed changes also include the addition of the COLR to the Definitions section and to the reporting requirements of the Administrative Controls section of TS. Guidance on the proposed changes was developed by NRC on the basis of the review of a lead-plant proposal submitted on the Oconee plant docket by Duke Power Company. This guidance was provided to all power licensees and applicants by Generic Letter 88-16, dated October 4, 1988. The licensee's June 16, 1989 submittal amended the April 25, 1989 submittal. However, the changes did not change the intent of the original submittal and were more conservative. Specifically revisions to page 11 and 64 were deleted because changes to the Linear Heat Generation Rate (LHGR) parameters were not included in Generic Letter 88-16. Therefore, the current Specification remains in place. In addition, the submittal made editorial changes to include the words "latest approved revision" for referenced documents. This clarifies that only NRC approved documents are used. Section 6.9.1.f was also reformatted. In addition, the words "its supplements and revisions" were deleted from the definition of the Core Operating Limits Report. Because the June 16, 1989 changes did not change the intent of the original submittal, and were made only to clarify the intent, and did not alter the staff's initial determination, the action was not renoticed in the Federal Register.

2.0 EVALUATION

The licensee's proposed changes to the TS are in accordance with the guidance provided by Generic Letter 88-16 and are addressed below.

- (1) The Definition section of the TS was modified to include a definition of the Core Operating Limits Report that requires cycle/reload-specific parameter limits to be established on a unit-specific basis in accordance with an NRC approved methodology that maintains the limits of the safety analysis. The definition notes that plant operation within these limits is addressed by individual specifications.

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- (2) The following specifications were revised to replace the values of cycle-specific parameter limits with a reference to the COLR that provides these limits.
- (a) Specification 3.1.7.a - Average Planar Linear Heat Generation Rate (APLHGR)
- The average planar linear heat generation rate limits are provided in the COLR for the different fuel types.
- (b) Specification 3.1.7.c - Minimum Critical Power Ratio (MCPR)
- The K_f factors and MCPRs are provided in the COLR.
- (c) Specification 3.1.7.e - Partial Loop Operation
- Average planar linear heat generation rates for partial loop operation are provided in the COLR.
- The MCPR for three loop operation is adjusted as discussed in the COLR.
- (3) Specification 6.9.1.f was added to the reporting requirements of the Administrative Controls section of the TS. This specification requires that the COLR be submitted, upon issuance, to the NRC Document Control Desk with copies to the Regional Administrator and Resident Inspector. The report provides the values of cycle-specific parameter limits that are applicable for the current fuel cycle. Furthermore, these specifications require that the values of these limits be established using NRC approved methodology and be consistent with all applicable limits of the safety analysis. The approved methodologies are the following:
- (a) NEDE-24011-P-A, "General Electric Standard Application for Reactor Fuel" (latest approved version).
- (b) NEDE-30966-P-A, Volumes I and II, "SAFER Model for Evaluation of Loss-of-Coolant Accidents for Jet Pump and Non-Jet Pump plants" (latest approved version).
- (c) NEDO-20556-P-A, "General Electric Company Analytical Model for Loss-of-Coolant Accident Analysis in Accordance with 10 CFR 50 Appendix K" (latest approved version).

Finally, the specification requires that all changes in cycle-specific parameter limits be documented in the COLR before each reload cycle or remaining part of a reload cycle and submitted upon issuance to NRC, prior to operation with the new parameter limits.

On the basis of the review of the above items, the NRC staff concludes that the licensee provided an acceptable response to those items as addressed in the NRC guidance in Generic Letter 88-16 on modifying cycle-specific parameter limits in TS. Because plant operation continues to be limited in accordance with the values of cycle-specific parameter limits that are established using an NRC approved methodology, the NRC staff concludes that this change is administrative in nature and there is no impact on plant safety as a consequence. Accordingly, the staff finds that the proposed changes are acceptable.

3.0 SUMMARY

We have reviewed the request by the Niagra Mohawk Power Company to modify the Technical Specifications of the Nine Mile Point Unit 1 plant that would remove the specific values of some cycle-dependent parameters from the specifications and place the values in a Core Operating Limits Report that would be referenced by the Specification. Based on this review, we conclude that these Technical Specification modifications are acceptable.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change in the installation or use of the facility components located within the restricted areas as defined in 10 CFR 20. The staff has determined that this 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 Sec 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.

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 the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Dated: August 21, 1989

PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTOR: D. Fieno