

March 16, 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. 2 (TAC NO. M99363)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 79 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-69 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 2 (NMP2). The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application transmitted by letter dated July 31, 1997.

This amendment changes Action Statement 36 of TS Table 3.3.3-1, "Emergency Core Cooling System Actuation Instrumentation," so as to include actions to be taken if more than one channel per trip function should be inoperable in the high-pressure core spray drywell pressure and reactor water level instrumentation. Prior to this amendment, Action 36 only addressed actions for one channel per trip function being inoperable.

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

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

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

Docket No. 50-410

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 79 to NPF-69  
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

*DFD*

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 16, 1998

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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. 50-410

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 79 to  
NPF-69  
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

**John H. Mueller**  
**Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation**

**Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station**  
**Unit No. 2**

cc:

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DATED: March 16, 1998

AMENDMENT NO. 79 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69 NINE MILE POINT  
NUCLEAR POWER STATION UNIT NO. 2

Docket File

PUBLIC

PDI-1 Reading

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

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-410

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 79  
License No. NPF-69

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee) dated July 31, 1997, 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:

(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. 79 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 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: March 16, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 79

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69

DOCKET NO. 50-410

Replace the following page of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached page. The revised page is identified by Amendment number and contains vertical lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove

3/4 3-34

Insert

3/4 3-34

**TABLE 3.3.3-1 (Continued)**

**EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEM ACTUATION INSTRUMENTATION**

**ACTION**

- ACTION 32 -** With the number of OPERABLE channels less than required by the Minimum OPERABLE Channels per Trip Function requirement, within 24 hours declare the associated ADS Trip System or ECCS inoperable.
- ACTION 33 -** With the number of OPERABLE channels less than required by the Minimum OPERABLE Channels per Trip Function requirement, place the inoperable channel in the tripped condition within 24 hours.
- ACTION 34 -** Not Used.
- ACTION 35 -** With the number of OPERABLE channels less than required by the Minimum OPERABLE Channels per Trip Function requirement, restore the inoperable channel to OPERABLE status within 8 hours or declare the associated ADS valve or ECCS inoperable.
- ACTION 36 -** With the number of OPERABLE channels less than required by the Minimum OPERABLE Channels per Trip Function requirement:
- a. With one channel inoperable, place the inoperable channel in the tripped condition within 24 hours\* or declare the HPCS system inoperable.
  - b. With more than one channel inoperable, declare the HPCS system inoperable.
- ACTION 37 -** With the number of OPERABLE channels less than required by the Minimum OPERABLE Channels per Trip Function requirement, place at least one inoperable channel in the tripped condition within 24 hours\* or declare the HPCS system inoperable.
- ACTION 38 -** With the number of OPERABLE channels less than the Total Number of Channels, declare the associated emergency diesel generator inoperable and take the ACTION required by Specification 3.8.1.1 or 3.8.1.2, as appropriate.
- ACTION 39 -** With the number of OPERABLE channels one less than the Total Number of Channels, place the inoperable channel in the tripped condition within 1 hour\*; operation may then continue until performance of the next required CHANNEL FUNCTIONAL TEST.

\* The provisions of Specification 3.0.4 are not applicable.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 79 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION  
NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 2

DOCKET NO. 50-410

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated July 31, 1997, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC or the licensee) requested a license amendment to change the Technical Specifications (TSs) for Nine Mile Point, Unit 2 (NMP2). The proposed change would revise Action Statement 36 of TS Table 3.3.3-1, "Emergency Core Cooling System Actuation Instrumentation," so as to include actions to be taken if more than one channel per trip function should be inoperable in the high-pressure core spray (HPCS) drywell pressure and reactor water level instrumentation. Presently, Action 36 only addresses actions for the plant condition of having one channel per trip function inoperable. Specifically, Action 36 would be changed to require that, with the number of operable channels less than required by the minimum operable channels per trip function requirement, then (1) with one channel inoperable, the inoperable channel is to be placed in the tripped condition within 24 hours or the HPCS system is to be declared inoperable, and (2) with more than one channel inoperable, the HPCS system is to be declared inoperable.

The effect of this change is to allow the licensee to declare the HPCS system inoperable when more than one channel is inoperable, and thereby allow entry into a specified TS action statement, rather than entering TS 3.0.3.

2.0 EVALUATION

The current TS Table 3.3.3-1, Action 36, does not address plant conditions when more channels than the required minimum operable channels per trip function are inoperable. Accordingly, instead of declaring HPCS inoperable, the licensee is required to shut down in accordance with TS 3.0.3.

The proposed changes to TS Table 3.3.3-1, Action 36, allow the licensee to declare HPCS inoperable during plant conditions when more than one HPCS instrumentation channel per trip function is inoperable. Declaring HPCS inoperable because of inoperable initiating instrumentation is consistent with TS actions that declare HPCS inoperable for other equipment failures within the system. The revised Action 36 allows the licensee to follow the appropriate TS for HPCS inoperability instead of following TS 3.0.3.

Accordingly, the staff concludes that the changes are appropriate and acceptable because they (1) prevent unnecessary plant shutdowns as presently required by TS 3.0.3, by allowing the licensee to declare the HPCS system inoperable when more than one channel per trip function of HPCS drywell pressure and reactor water level instrumentation is inoperable, and (2) provide consistency in the Emergency Core Cooling System instrumentation and system TS actions when less than the minimum required channels are operable.

### **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**

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluent 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 the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding (62 FR 45460). Accordingly, the 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 the 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. Waterman  
D. Hood

Date: March 16, 1998