March 7, 1995

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT FOR NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2 (TAC NO. M90677)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 64 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-69 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (NMP-2). The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application transmitted by letter dated October 21, 1994.

The amendment revises TS 4.8.1.1.2.a.8 by adding a footnote which permits performance of the 24-hour functional test of the emergency diesel generators (EDGs) during power operation. Previously, the 24-hour functional test was required to be performed during shutdown. The amendment requires that the other two EDGs be operable during the tests and that the tests be aborted if either of the other two EDGs become inoperable.

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

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Donald S. Brinkman, 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. 64 to NPF-69
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

Distribution: See attached sheet

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

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DATED: March 7, 1995

AMENDMENT NO. 64 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69-NINE MILE POINT UNIT 2

Docket File
PUBLIC
PDI-1 Reading
S. Varga, 14/E/4
J. Zwolinski, 14/H/3
L. Marsh
C. Vogan
D. Brinkman
OGC
D. Hagan, T-4 A43
G. Hill (2), T-5 C3
C. Grimes, 11/E/22
M. Pratt
C. Berlinger
D. Thatcher
ACRS (4)
OPA
OC/LFDCB
PD plant-specific file
C. Cowgill, Region I

cc: Plant Service list

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. 64
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 October 21, 1994, 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. 64 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

Ledyard B. Marsh, 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 7, 1995

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT

AMENDMENT NO. 64 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69

DOCKET NO. 50-410

Revise Appendix A as follows:

Remove Page	Insert Page
3/4 8-10	3/4 8-10

4.8.1.1.2.e (Continued)

8. Verify the diesel generator operates for at least 24 hours.†

   a) For Divisions I and II:

   During the first 2 hours of this test, the diesel generator shall be loaded to greater than or equal to 4840 kW*. During the remaining 22 hours of this test, the diesel generator shall be loaded to greater than or equal to 4400 kW*. The generator voltage and frequency shall be 4160 ± 416 volts and 60 ± 3.0 Hz within 10 seconds and 4160 ± 416 volts and 60 ± 1.2 Hz within 13 seconds after the start signal; the steady state generator voltage and frequency shall be maintained within these limits during this test.

   b) For Division III:

   During the first 2 hours of this test, the diesel generator shall be loaded to greater than or equal to 2860 kW*. During the remaining 22 hours of this test, the diesel generator shall be loaded to greater than or equal to 2600 kW*. The generator voltage and frequency shall be 4160 ± 416 volts and 60 ± 1.2 Hz within 15 seconds after the start signal; the steady state generator voltage and frequency shall be maintained within these limits during this test.

9. Verifying that the autoconnected loads to each diesel generator do not exceed the 2000-hour rating of 4750 kW for diesel generators EDG*1 and EDG*3 and 2850 kW for diesel generator EDG*2.

10. Verifying the diesel generator's capability to:

   a) Manually synchronize with the offsite power source while the generator is loaded with its emergency loads upon a simulated restoration of offsite power,

   b) Transfer its loads to the offsite power source, and

   c) Be restored to its standby status.

11. Verifying that with the diesel generator operating in a test mode and connected to its bus, a simulated ECCS actuation signal overrides the test mode by (1) returning the diesel generator to standby operation and (2) automatically energizes the emergency loads with offsite power.

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* Momentary transients due to changing bus loads shall not invalidate the test.

† This test may be performed during power operation provided that the other two diesel generators are operable. Should either of the two diesel generators become inoperable, the test will be aborted.

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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 64 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2

DOCKET NO. 50-410

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated October 21, 1994, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (NMP-2), Technical Specifications (TSs). The requested changes would revise TS 4.8.1.1.2.a.8 to add a footnote which would permit performance of the 24-hour functional test of the emergency diesel generators (EDGs) during power operation. TS 4.8.1.1.2.a.8 currently requires that the 24-hour functional test of the EDGs be performed at least once per 18 months during shutdown; the proposed change would permit this testing to be performed during power operation provided the other two EDGs are operable. If either of the other two EDGs become inoperable, the test would be aborted. This change to TS 4.8.1.1.2.a.8 would provide testing flexibility and significant cost savings without a reduction in safety.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The emergency power system at NMP-2 is divided into three physically separate and electrically independent divisions designated divisions I, II, and III. Each division is equipped with a dedicated EDG and any two out of these three divisions has the capacity and capability to safely shut down the reactor in case of a loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) or other design basis accident (DBA). The safety function of the EDGs is to supply AC electrical power to plant safety systems whenever the preferred AC power supply is unavailable.

3.0 EVALUATION

The licensee proposed an amendment to the EDG 24-hour functional test at NMP-2 to provide testing flexibility and cost savings. The licensee proposed to perform this test during power operation because of the system alignment during the test, and the EDG's ability to remain operable and available to perform its safety function of supplying emergency power.

During the 24-hour functional test at NMP-2, the EDG is loaded by paralleling with the offsite power system. However, only one EDG is paralleled to the offsite source at any one time. Should an accident occur while an EDG is under test, the accident signal overrides the test mode, returns the diesel to

standby operation, and the offsite power continues to energize the necessary loads. This function is tested once per cycle in accordance with TS 4.8.1.1.2.e.11. If the event involves a loss of offsite power, the EDG will be ready to supply the loads within the required time.

In the event of a loss-of-offsite power (LOOP) to the bus paralleled to the grid without an accident, the EDG being tested would automatically separate from the offsite source and a load shedding sequence would be initiated on the safety buses. The diesel would then be ready to supply all necessary loads. If a perturbation on the offsite source caused a failure of the EDG under test, the EDGs on the remaining divisions would be available to feed the loads due to the independence that is maintained between the divisions during testing.

At NMP-2 the diesel generators are paralleled to the grid during power operation to satisfy a monthly 1-hour TS surveillance requirement. There will be no difference between the system lineup for this monthly test of the diesel and the lineup of the diesel during the 24-hour functional test. The licensee will only perform the test during power operation provided that the other remaining diesel generators are operable. In addition, the NRC staff will require that the licensee verify that the remaining divisions have the necessary equipment operable to mitigate the consequences of DBA or LOOP, and have procedures with provisions to avoid paralleling EDGs to the offsite source during severe weather or unstable grid conditions.

The NRC staff concludes that although performance of the 24-hour EDG functional test during power is contrary to the NRC's Standard Technical Specifications, performance of this test during power operation is acceptable due to the followings provisions:

1. The EDGs are equipped with a feature that allows the EDGs to automatically switch from the test mode to the standby mode on the receipt of an accident signal. For example, if the EDG receives a accident signal while in the test mode (paralleled to the grid) the EDG has the capability to automatically disconnect from the offsite power system, return to the standby mode, and supply power to the necessary loads within the required time.

2. During the 24-hour test of an EDG, no other EDG is operated in parallel with the offsite power grid, and the remaining redundant divisions are supplied from a separate independent offsite source. This configuration assures that only one EDG is susceptible to grid perturbations and independent safe shutdown capability is maintained.

3. Assuming a LOOP and a single failure of an EDG, adequate capacity is available from the remaining EDGs to power the remaining divisions, and the remaining divisions will have the required equipment operable to mitigate the consequences of a DBA or LOOP.

4. The EDGs will not be paralleled to the offsite systems during severe weather or unstable grid conditions.

4.0 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.

5.0 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 and changes a surveillance requirement. The NRC staff has determined that the 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 the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (59 FR 55875). 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.

6.0 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 Contributor: M. D. Pratt

Date: March 7, 1995