

Decem 12, 1996

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 2
(TAC NO. M96109)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 78 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-69 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application transmitted by letter dated July 12, 1996.

The amendment revises TS Section 6.2.2.i regarding the administrative controls for the normal working hours of unit staff who perform safety-related functions. The change allows the establishment of unit staff work schedules that average 40 hours per week using shifts as long as 12 hours.

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,

/s/

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. 78 to NPF-69
- 2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001
December 12, 1996

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Executive Vice President, Generation
Business Group and Chief Nuclear Officer
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
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450 Lake Road
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Docket No. 50-410

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 78 to
NPF-69
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

B. Ralph Sylvia
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Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Unit 2

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Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Unit 2

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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. 78
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 12, 1996, 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. 78 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, Acting 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: December 12, 1996

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT

AMENDMENT NO. 78 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69

DOCKET NO. 50-410

Revise Appendix A as follows:

Remove Page

Insert Page

6-2

6-2

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

ORGANIZATION

UNIT STAFF

6.2.2 (Continued)

- f. A Licensed Senior Operator or Licensed Senior Operator Limited to Fuel Handling shall be responsible for all movement of new and irradiated fuel within the site boundary. All core alterations shall be directly supervised by a Licensed Senior Operator or Licensed Senior Operator Limited to Fuel Handling who has no other concurrent responsibilities during this operation. All fuel moves within the core shall be directly monitored by a member of the reactor analyst group.
- g. A Fire Brigade* of five members shall be maintained on site at all times. The Fire Brigade shall not include the Shift Supervisor and the two other members of the minimum shift crew necessary for safe shutdown of the unit and any personnel required for other essential functions during a fire emergency.
- h. Administrative procedures shall be developed and implemented to limit the working hours of unit staff who perform safety-related functions; e.g., Licensed Senior Operators, licensed operators, health physicists, auxiliary operators, and key maintenance personnel.
- i. 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 unit 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 unit 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.

* The radiation protection qualified individual and Fire Brigade composition may be less than the minimum requirements for a period of time not to exceed 2 hours, in order to accommodate unexpected absence, provided immediate action is taken to fill the required positions.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 78 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 application dated July 12, 1996, Niagara Mohawk Power Company (the licensee) requested an amendment to Technical Specification 6.2.2.i for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (NMP2). The proposed amendment would revise the specification for the normal working hours of unit staff who perform safety-related functions from "a normal 8-hour day, 40-hour week" to "an 8 to 12 hour day, nominal 40-hour week." The change, in effect, would enable the licensee to establish unit staff work schedules that average 40 hours per week using shifts as long as 12 hours.

2.0 EVALUATION

The NRC staff has previously approved the use of 12-hour shifts at other U.S. commercial nuclear power plants and has found no evidence of adverse effects on plant safety resulting from the use of such shifts. All other existing provisions of NMP2 TS 6.2.2 (e.g., concerning consecutive hours of work, overtime, and breaks) remain unchanged. Thus, the proposed change does not alter the intent of the existing specification with respect to the number of hours that should normally be worked per week and NMP2 TS 6.2.2 will continue to provide adequate assurance that routine heavy use of overtime will not be necessary to provide adequate shift coverage.

The NRC staff finds the proposed change to be consistent with Section 5.2.2.e of NUREG-1433, Rev. 1, "Standard Technical Specifications, General Electric Plants, BWR/4" which provides licensees the option of specifying either an 8-hour or a 12-hour shift. Although the licensee has proposed to specify a range ("8 to 12 hour day") rather than a specific shift length, the NRC staff has no safety concern with the proposed specification that affords the licensee the flexibility to establish shift lengths within the 8-hour to 12-hour range.

The proposed amendment is consistent with current licensing practices and operating experience. The revised shift working hours remain within limits demonstrated acceptable by operating experience. Accordingly, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed change to Nine Mile Point Unit 2 Technical Specification 6.2.2.i is 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: D. Desaulniers
D. Hood

Date: December 12, 1996

DATED: December 12, 1996

AMENDMENT NO. 78 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69-NINE MILE POINT
UNIT 2

Docket File

PUBLIC

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