**DISTRIBUTION:** ■Docket File (ENVIRON) OR TIC NRC PDR WRegan/JNorris Local PDR MDuncan NRR Reading DSE Reading **EP-3** Reading HDenton DMuller RBoyd DVassallo WKane OFL D PShuttleworth ACRS (16)

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WMcDonald, MIPC

Docket No. 50-410

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AUG 1 6 1976

Mr. Gerald K. Rhode Vice President-Engineering Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation 300 Erie Boulevard West Syracuse, New York 13202

Dear Mr. Rhode:

This is in response to your submittal of July 19, 1976 transmitting 5 copies of the Report on Circulating Water Cooling System Employing a Natural Draft Cooling Tower, Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, July 1976.

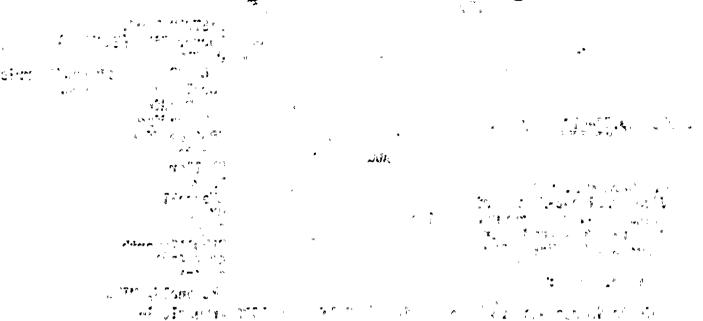
A change from once-through cooling to a cooling tower system would involve substantial changes in the cost-benefit analysis performed prior to issuance of the construction permit. There would also be environmental impacts which we have never assessed in detail. Authorization for construction of the facility using a cooling tower system as opposed to the once-through presently authorized by construction permit CPPR-112 will therefore require your filing an application for amendment of your construction permit. We would pre-notice our consideration of your application and provide opportunity for intervention. We would also consider whether it would be necessary to recirculate the final environmental statement.

In addition to the reevaluation of our environmental assessment under NEPA, the staff will also have to consider any safety issues which may be occasioned by the proposed revision.

Sincerely, Original Signed by Regis R. Boyle

for Wm. H. Regan, Jr., Chief Environmental Projects Branch 3 Division of Site Safety and Environmental Analysis

. cc:	(see attached	list)	*			T
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 Gerald K. Rhode

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cc: Arvin E. Upton, Esquire LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae 1757 N. Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20036

> Miss Juanita Kersey, Librarian Oswego City Library 120 E. Second Street Oswego, New York 13126

Mr. Richard Goldsmith Syracuse University College of Law E. I. White Hall Campus Syracuse, New York 13210

Dr. William E. Seymour Staff Coordinator New York State Atomic Energy Council New York State Department of Commerce 99 Washington Street Albany, New York 12210

Anthony Z. Roisman, Esquire Berkin, Roisman & Kessler 1712 N. Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20036

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