

50-220

NRC DISTRIBUTION FOR PART 50 DOCKET MATERIAL

FILE NUMBER

TO: Mr. George Leak

FROM: Niagara Mohawk Power Co.
Syracuse, N. Y. 13202
James Barlett

DATE OF DOCUMENT

04-06-77

DATE RECEIVED

04-08-77

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DESCRIPTION Ltr. Ref. their 03-08-77 submittal...
furnishing reasons for the method to change
reactor vessel water level drainage....

ENCLOSURE

(2 pages)

ACKNOWLEDGED

DO NOT REMOVE

PLANT NAME: NINE MILE POINT UNIT # 1

jcm

SAFETY

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

ENVIRO

ASSIGNED AD:		ASSIGNED AD:
BRANCH CHIEF:	Leak (5)	BRANCH CHIEF:
PROJECT MANAGER:	Nowicki	PROJECT MANAGER:
LIC. ASST. :	Parkish	LIC. ASST. :

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

REG FILE	SYSTEMS SAFETY	PLANT SYSTEMS	SITE SAFETY &
NRC PDR	HEINEMAN	TEDESCO	ENVIRO ANALYSIS
I & E (2)	SCHROEDER	BENAROYA	DENTON & MULLER
OELD		LATNAS	
GOSSICK & STAFF	ENGINEERING	IPPOLITO	ENVIRO TECH.
MIPC	MACARRY	KIRKWOOD	ERNST
CASE	BOSNAK		BALLARD
HANAUER	SIHWEL	OPERATING REACTORS	SPANGLER
HARLESS	PAWLICKI	STELLO	
			SITE TECH.
PROJECT MANAGEMENT	REACTOR SAFETY	OPERATING TECH.	GAMMILL
BOYD	ROSS	EISENHUT	STEPP
P. COLLINS	NOVAK	SHAO	HULMAN
HOUSTON	ROSZTOCZY	BAER	
PETERSON	CHECK	BUTLER	SITE ANALYSIS
MELTZ		GRIMES	VOLLMER
HELTEMES	AT & I		BUNCH
SKOVHOLT	SALTZMAN		J. COLLINS
	RUTBERG		KREGER

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

CONTROL NUMBER

IPDR: Oswego NY	NAT. LAB:	BROOKHAVEN NAT. LAB.	770990010
TIC:	REG V. IE	ULRIKSON (ORNL)	
NSIC:	JA PDR		
ASLB:	CONSULTANTS:		
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NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

NIAGARA  MOHAWK

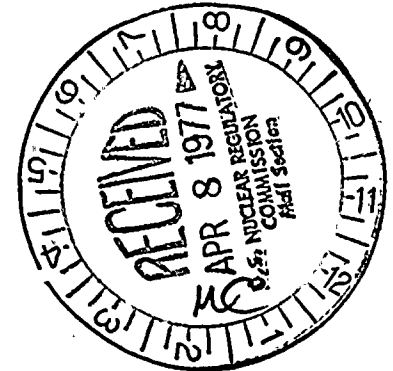
300 ERIE BOULEVARD, WEST
SYRACUSE, N. Y. 13202

Regulatory

File Cy

April 6, 1977

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: Mr. George Lear, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555



Re: Nine Mile Point Unit 1
Docket No. 50-220
DPR-63

Gentlemen:

Our submittal of March 8, 1977 requested an amendment to the operating license for Nine Mile Point Unit 1 which would provide for lowering the reactor vessel water level below the current low-low-low level set point. This is necessary to perform inspections and/or maintenance on the reactor vessel internals.

On March 16, 1977, additional information supporting the proposed water level change was submitted. It has since been determined that revisions to procedures for lowering water level would provide for additional safety.

Any drainage required to maintain vessel level will not be controlled by valves between the cleanup system and the equipment drain tank as originally proposed. These valves will be red tagged to preclude their inadvertent operation. Drainage will be controlled by two manually-operated valves located between a standby shutdown cooling loop and the equipment drain tank.

The change in drainage method has been made for the following reasons:

- 1) By changing drainage from the cleanup system to the shutdown cooling system, drain lines are reduced from 2 inches to 1 inch. This will result in lower exit flows should valve failures occur.

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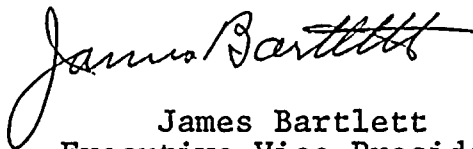
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- 2) Complete failure of the shutdown cooling drain valves could result in draining the annular region outside the core shroud. However, the water level in the core would not drain below the top of the core shroud (3'-11/16" above active fuel). Complete failure of the previously proposed cleanup system drain valves could result in drainage in the core.
- 3) The manually-operated shutdown cooling system drain valves will provide for increased reliability since they will not rely on an external power source for operation. The previously proposed cleanup system drain valves rely on an external power source.

Therefore, it is concluded that using the drain valves in the shutdown cooling system will provide increased safety margin compared to that originally proposed.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION



James Bartlett
Executive Vice President

WRD/sz

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