

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

Region I

Report No. 79-01

Docket No. 50-220

License No. DPR-63 Priority -- Category C

Licensee: Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

300 Erie Boulevard West

Syracuse, New York

Facility Name: Nine Mile Point Station, Unit 1

Inspection at: Scriba, New York

Inspection conducted: January 16-19, 1979

Inspectors: *R. Architzel*  
R. Architzel, Reactor Inspector

2/2/79  
date signed

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date signed

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date signed

Approved by: *E. C. McCabe, Jr.*  
E. C. McCabe, Jr., Chief, Reactor Projects  
Section No. 2, RO&NS Branch

2/5/79  
date signed

Inspection Summary:

Inspection on January 16-19, 1979 (Report No. 50-220/79-01)

Areas Inspected: Routine, unannounced inspection of plant operations. A plant tour was conducted. The inspection involved 23 hours onsite by one NRC regional based inspector.

Results: One item of noncompliance was identified in the area inspected (Infraction - failure to lock high radiation area - paragraph 2.b).

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## DETAILS

### 1. Persons Contacted

The following technical and supervisory level personnel were contacted:

W. Bandla, Station Shift Supervisor  
W. Drews, Reactor Engineer  
J. Earls, Station Shift Supervisor  
\*T. Lempges, General Superintendent - Nuclear Generation  
\*T. Perkins, Station Superintendent  
\*R. Raymond, Fire Protection Coordinator  
\*J. Shea, Assistant to Supervisor - Operations  
M. Stancliff, Station Shift Supervisor

\*denotes those present at the exit interview.

Other licensee employees were also interviewed.

### 2. Review of Plant Operations

#### a. Shift Logs and Operating Records

The inspector reviewed the records listed below for compliance with the licensee's administrative procedure for Operations Department Logs.

- (1) Station Shift Supervisor's (SSS) Log for the period December 20, 1978 - January 15, 1979
- (2) Control Station Operator's (CSO) Log for the period December 27, 1978 - January 12, 1979
- (3) Jumper and Lifted Lead Log for all active entries.
- (4) Station Shift Supervisor Instructions (SSSI) for the period December 8, 1978 - January 19, 1979
- (5) Reactor Physics Daily Surveillances for the period January 1 - 18, 1979
- (6) Operations Daily Checks (Surveillances) for the period December 15, 1978 - January 6, 1979

During this review the inspector noted several instances where the cable spreading room CO<sub>2</sub> Deluge system had been placed in "Alarm Only" versus "Automatic" during welding operations in the vicinity of the Cable Spreading Room. This was done to



prevent unnecessary initiation in the event that smoke from the welding operation initiated the system. The detectors remain operable in the "Alarm Only" position and in the event of an alarm (none occurred during these periods) the licensee stated that the cause would be immediately verified (i.e., fire or welding operations) and a fire watch posted as long as the alarm condition remained. The licensee stated the the CO<sub>2</sub> deluge system remained operable throughout and that the Detectors were the "fire watch". This item (79-01-01) is unresolved.

b. Plant Tour

The inspector observed control room operations and conducted a facility tour accompanied by a licensee representative. The tour included the Reactor Building, Turbine Building, Diesel Generator Rooms, and the Off Gas Building. The following were among the items observed:

- Radiation Controls properly established;
- No fluid leaks of significance;
- Pipe vibrations not excessive;
- Control Room manning in accordance with Technical Specifications;
- Reasons for lighted annunciators in the Control Room;
- Housekeeping, including examination for fire hazards;
- Positions of Selected Locked Valves; and,
- Equipment Tagging.

During the tour the inspector tried to open the door (Southeast) to the Condenser Bay, a posted High Radiation Area. The door's latching mechanism was not engaged and the door was opened without a key. This area had radiation levels as high as 1200 mrem/hour and was required to be posted and locked per Technical Specification 6.13. Failure to have the door to this high radiation area locked on January 18, 1979 is an item of noncompliance (79-01-02). This item is recurrent in that similar items were identified in NRC Inspection Reports 50-220/77-26 and 50-220/78-12.



3. NRC In Office Review

NRC: RI in office review of the following report has been completed with no unacceptable conditions identified:

-- NMP letter 1082 dated January 8, 1979,

December 1978 Monthly Report.

4. Unresolved Item

An item about which more information is required to determine acceptability is considered unresolved. Paragraph 2.a contains an unresolved item.

5. Exit Interview

At the conclusion of the inspection the inspector held a meeting (see paragraph 1 for attendees) to discuss the inspection scope and findings. The item of noncompliance and unresolved item were identified.

