

May 22, 1979

Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
Attention: Mr. R. T. Carlson, Chief
Reactor Construction and Engineering
Support Branch
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Mr. Carlson:

Re: Nine Mile Point Unit 2
Docket No. 50-410

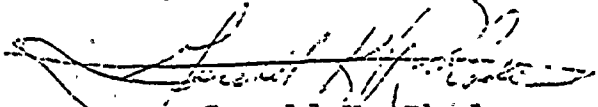
On May 18, 1979, Mr. A. C. Cerne of your staff was notified by phone that Niagara Mohawk is evaluating a condition at the Nine Mile Point Unit 2 construction site which may be a reportable deficiency under 10 CFR Part 50.55(e) of the Commission's Regulations. This condition concerns inadequate nondestructive examination of various weld configurations on the containment liner.

During an audit, it was determined that certain ultrasonic testing was inadequate to examine the entire weld. As a result of this finding, the circumferential k-type butt seam weld in the containment liner lower knuckle assembly and the base ring embeddings are being ultrasonically examined again. Minor indications have been discovered and are being reworked. In addition, ultrasonic testing is again being performed on some of the containment liner to sleeve penetration welds.

We are currently evaluating whether the condition, if left uncorrected, could have affected adversely the safety of operations of the plant. We expect to provide our final report on this matter by June 18, 1979.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION



Gerald K. Rhode
Vice President
System Project Management

PEF/szd

Xc: Director of Inspection & Enforcement
USNRC/Washington, D. C. 20555

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