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 FACIL: 50-410 Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Niagara Moho 05000410  
 AUTH. NAME: LEMPGES, T. E. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.  
 RECIP. NAME: CARLSON, R. T. RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Region 1, Philadelphia, Reactor Construction & Engineering

SUBJECT: Interim deficiency rept initially reported 810227 re: possible horizontal crack in primary containment liner base ring T-weld. Final rept will be forwarded by 810601.

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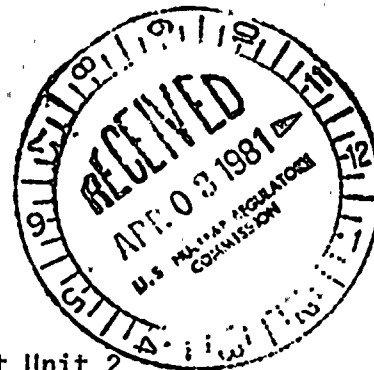
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March 30, 1981

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



A potential 10 CFR 50.55(e) deficiency was reported to Mr. H. Kister of your staff on February 27, 1981. The potential deficiency concerned a possible horizontal crack in the Nine Mile Point Unit 2 primary containment liner base ring T-weld. This letter serves as an interim report in accordance with Paragraph 50.55(e)(3) of 10 CFR 50.

A horizontal crack was discovered in the containment liner base ring embedment T-weld during repair of this weld on the Gulf States Utilities River Bend project. There is a reasonable basis to believe a similar condition could exist on the Unit 2 Project, since both liners were fabricated by the same vendor, using a similar welding process and procedure and during the same time span.

This weld was the subject of another potentially reportable 50.55(e) deficiency which was initially reported to you on May 18, 1979. As part of the corrective action from this potential deficiency, the base ring T-weld was ultrasonically examined during early 1979 employing 45° and 70° angle beam transducers, in accordance with ASME Section III, NE-5000 requirements. All code rejectable indications were identified. However, our review of the horizontal crack discovered on the other project indicates that the previous techniques used for examination of the Unit 2 T-weld may not adequately detect this type of discontinuity.

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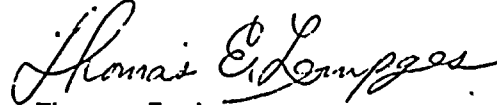
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An engineering evaluation of the problem is being conducted. The necessary corrective action will be determined and identified to you in a final report by June 1, 1981.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION



Thomas E. Lempges  
Vice President Nuclear Generation

PEF:ja

xc: Director of Inspection and Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

