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AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
RHODE,G.K. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.
RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
YOUNGBLOOD,B.J. Licensing Branch 1

SUBJECT: Provides info requested at 800610 meeting w/NRC re method to minimize voids in concrete used in filling biological shield wall.Heavy density full matl will be installed using pressure grouting techniques.

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NIAGARA MOHAWK

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION/300 ERIE BOULEVARD WEST, SYRACUSE, N.Y. 13202/TELEPHONE (315) 474-1511

May 28, 1981

Mr. B. J. Youngblood, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Youngblood:

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

On June 10, 1980 Niagara Mohawk met with members of your staff to present the final resolution of the welding defects in the Unit 2 Biological Shield Wall. At that meeting, Niagara Mohawk was requested to submit information regarding the method to be used to minimize voids in the concrete used in filling the Biological Shield Wall.

Niagara Mohawk plans to utilize a heavy density material for filling the Biological Shield Wall. The heavy density fill material is to be installed using pressure grouting techniques. This technique will consist of pumping heavy density fill material into the base of the BSW and allowing it to flow upward through the compartments to a predetermined lift height forcing any trapped air ahead of the fill material. This process will continue circumferentially and vertically around the Biological Shield Wall until the entire structure has been filled with the heavy density fill material.

A visual inspection has been completed of all BSW compartments. This inspection verified that the concrete placement openings and vent holes were sufficiently unobstructed to allow the heavy density material to flow between compartments and that no deleterious material was present.

A placement investigation has been performed utilizing a mock-up of the Biological Shield Wall to verify the adequacy of the fill material. The mix of heavy density fill material performed well with respect to flowability and placement capability. Examination of the mock-up after placement showed that the compartments were adequately filled with only minor voids and a minimum of bleeding.

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The proposed heavy density fill material has been reviewed for radiation protection requirements. The preliminary results of this review indicate that all radiation requirements can be achieved. However, minor adjustments in the water content of the mix may be needed to satisfy the neutron absorption requirements. Prior to placement, final radiation protection capabilities will be verified upon determination of the optimum water content in the fill material mix.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

Gerald K. Rhode
Vice President
System Project Management

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Region I