Docket No. 50-220

SEP 17 1981

Mr. Donald P. Dise
Vice President - Engineering
c/o Miss Catherine R. Seibert
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Dear Mr. Dise:

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF TMI ACTION PLAN ITEM II.K.3.29, "STUDY TO DEMONSTRATE PERFORMANCE OF ISOLATION CONDENSERS WITH NONCONDENSIBLES" - NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION (UNIT 1)

We have reviewed and evaluated your response to TMI Action Plan Item II.K.3.29. Your commitment to install tube-side vents eliminates the need to demonstrate the adequacy of the design with noncondensible gases present.

Since these vent valves are normally part of the reactor coolant boundary, these valves will hereafter be considered as part of Item II.B.1, Reactor Coolant System Vents. Their installation is thereby scheduled to be completed by July 1, 1982. Procedures for operator use of the vents are also scheduled to be implemented by July 1, 1982.

A copy of our evaluation is enclosed. Please advise us when the installation of tube-side vents is complete.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
T. A. Ippolito

Thomas A. Ippolito, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
As Stated

cc: w/enclosure
See next page

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Mr. Donald P. Dise

cc:
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# SAFETY EVALUATION OF NUREG-0737 ITEM II.K.3.29

## I. INTRODUCTION

The title of this item is "Study to Demonstrate Performance of Isolation Condensers with Noncondensibles." The position states that the various modes of two-phase-flow natural circulation, including noncondensibles, which may play a significant role in plant response following a small-break loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA), should be demonstrated.

## II. EVALUATION

You have chosen to provide (Reference 1) a means of venting noncondensible gases from the tube (reactor steam) side of the isolation condenser. This venting will preclude operation of the isolation condenser with a significant quantity of noncondensible gas in it. Since isolation condensers are by design two phase flow systems and they have been operated numerous times over a period of many years, their adequacy in the two phase mode has been demonstrated.

## III. CONCLUSION

The installation of tube-side, high point vents eliminates the need to demonstrate the adequacy of the design with noncondensible gases present. Thus, item II.K.3.29 is resolved pending licensee's action to install vents on the tube-side of the isolation condenser.

## REFERENCES

Letter from G. K. Rhode to D. G. Eisenhut dated November 7, 1980