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 FACIL: 50-220 Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 1, Niagara Powe 05000220  
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 MANGAN, C. V. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.  
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 Document Control Branch. (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Informs of discovery of leakage on HXs 11 & 12 during installation of supporting straps. HXs removed from svc until straps installed. Two HXs ordered as replacements & will be installed by end of Spring 1988 refueling & maint outage.

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May 7, 1987  
(NMP1L 0149)

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: Nine Mile Point Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-220  
DPR-63

Gentlemen:

Our letter of January 22, 1987, supplemented March 9, 1987, requested relief from the requirements of the ASME Code to install supporting straps on the Reactor Building Closed Loop Cooling Heat Exchangers and to continue operation of these heat exchangers until the Spring 1988 refueling and maintenance outage. At the time of our request, heat exchanger no. 13 was leaking at less than 0.022 gph at operating pressure and the other two heat exchangers had not exhibited any signs of leakage. We have recently identified some evidence of leakage on heat exchangers nos. 11 and 12. A leak in the waterbox to tube sheet weld of heat exchanger no. 12 was discovered while the supporting straps were being installed. The leakage rate is unknown at this time since the heat exchanger is out of service. We then performed a visual inspection of heat exchanger no. 11. A very small leak was found on the tube sheet to shell weld (less than 1 drop every two minutes at operating pressure). Heat exchanger no. 11 has also been removed from service.

In accordance with the Commission's Safety Evaluation dated March 20, 1987, Niagara Mohawk will return these heat exchangers to service after the supporting straps are installed. We will monitor the leakage rates of all three heat exchangers. If the leakage from any heat exchanger reaches 6.0 gpm, we will declare that heat exchanger inoperable and have it removed from service.

Two new heat exchangers are being ordered. The first heat exchanger will be scheduled for delivery in mid-November, 1987, and the second will be due early in December, 1987. Heat exchangers nos. 12 and 13 will be replaced prior to the end of the 1988 Spring refueling and maintenance outage. Since the new heat exchangers have a greater heat removal capacity than the old heat exchangers, we are evaluating whether a third heat exchanger is required. Therefore, heat exchanger no. 11 will either be disconnected from the system, or replaced by the end of the Spring 1988 refueling and maintenance outage.

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Niagara Mohawk's review of your Safety Evaluation dated March 20, 1987, indicates that the conclusions contained therein are still applicable in that continued operation of these heat exchangers with the safety straps, leakage monitoring program and periodic testing will not endanger public health and safety.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION



C. V. Mangan  
Senior Vice President

KBT/pns  
3103G

xc: Regional Administrator, Region I  
Mr. R. A. Capra, Director  
Mr. W. A. Cook, Resident Inspector

