



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 4, 1986

Docket No. 50-410

Mr. B. G. Hooten
Executive Director of Nuclear Operations
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Dear Mr. Hooten:

Subject: Water Gap Between Adjacent Fuel Racks in the Spent Fuel Pool
for Nine Mile Point, Unit 2

In a letter dated January 6, 1986, Niagara Mohawk provided a detailed discussion of a change made in Amendment 23 of the Nine Mile Point, Unit 2 (NMP-2) FSAR concerning the 3 inch water gap between adjacent fuel racks in the spent fuel pool. That letter indicated that the gaps between adjacent racks in the north-south direction, as well as the gaps between the racks and the standoffs on portions of the periphery, vary between 2 3/4 inches and 3 1/2 inches.

In addition, your letter of January 9, 1986, indicated that a review of the criticality analysis revealed that the effect of the water gap is so strongly negative that the difference between the nominal 3 inch and the 2 3/4 to 3 1/2 inch actual gaps is insignificant.

The staff has reviewed your letter of January 9, 1986, and concludes that no change to the conclusion of the SER on the spent fuel pool is needed. The effect of the small change (minimum spacing of 2.75 inches) in the rack-to-rack spacing is insignificant.

Sincerely,

Elinor G. Adensam

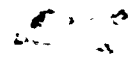
Elinor G. Adensam, Director
BWR Project Directorate No. 3
Division of BWR Licensing

cc: See next page

DESIGNATED ORIGINAL

Certified By *Angela Henry*

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PDR ADOCK 05000410
A PDR



Mr. B. G. Hooten
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

cc:

Mr. Troy B. Conner, Jr., Esq.
Conner & Wetterhahn
Suite 1050
1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Richard Goldsmith
Syracuse University
College of Law
E. I. White Hall Campus
Syracuse, New York 12223

Ezra I. Bialik
Assistant Attorney General
Environmental Protection Bureau
New York State Department of Law
2 World Trade Center
New York, New York 10047

Resident Inspector
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station
P. O. Box 99
Lycoming, New York 13093

Mr. John W. Keib, Esq.
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Mr. James Linville
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Norman Rademacher,
Licensing
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Unit 2

Regional Administrator, Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Mr. Paul D. Eddy
New York State Public Service
Commission
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station -
Unit II
Post Office Box 63
Lycoming, New York 13093

Don Hill
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Suite 550
4520 East West Highway
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

