



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 91 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-63

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-220

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated August 22, 1986, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee) requested an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-63 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1. The proposed amendment would add surveillance requirements to Technical Specification (TS) Section 4.4.5 as requested by the NRC staff in the Safety Evaluation transmitted with TS Amendment 73. Currently, the TS do not require a test to verify that the control room air treatment system can provide a positive pressure in the control room. By maintaining the control room pressure positive as compared to adjacent areas in order to assure that all leakage is out-leakage, control room habitability during accident conditions is assured.

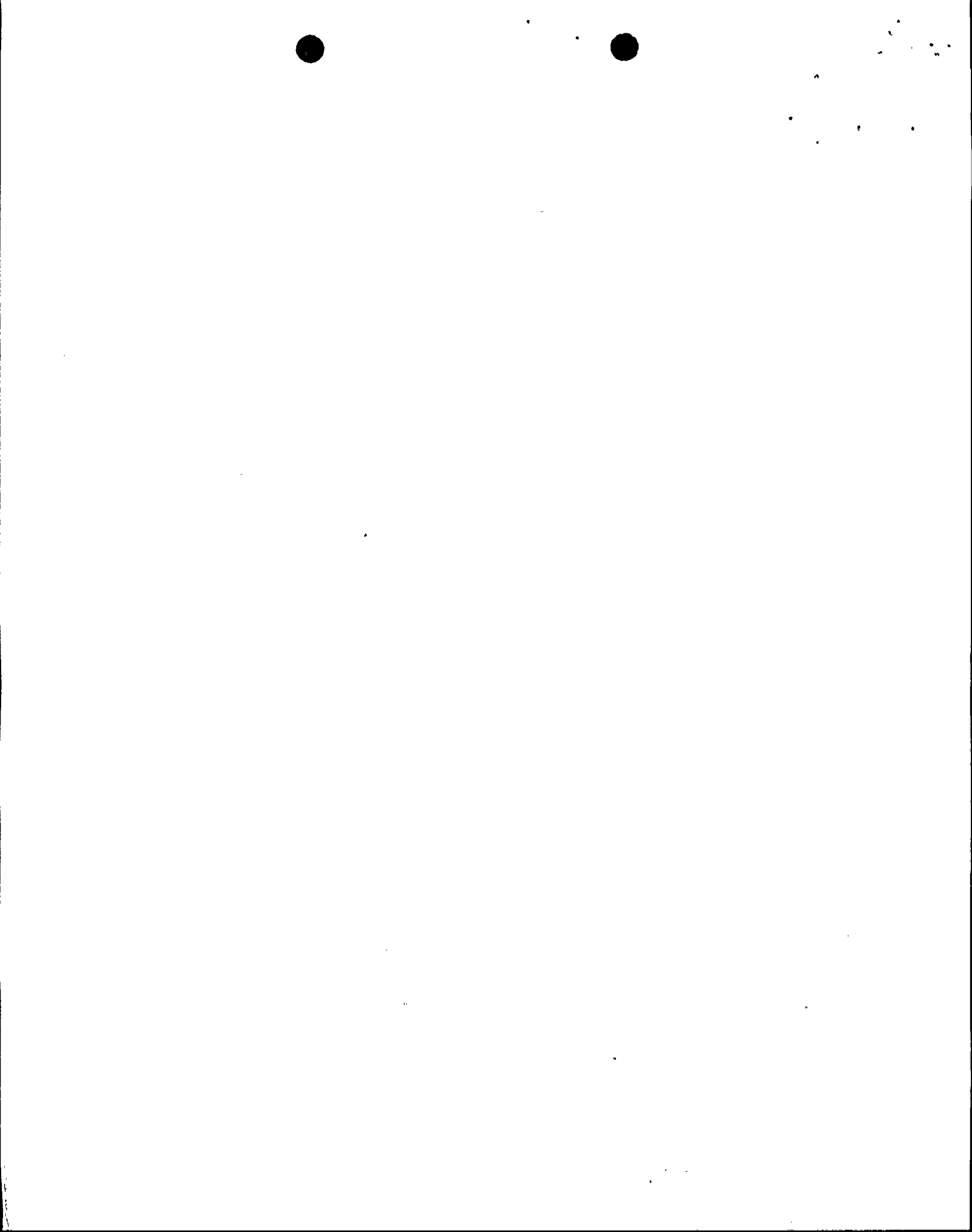
2.0 EVALUATION

In the June 11, 1985 NRC Staff Safety Evaluation transmitted with TS Amendment 73, an inconsistency between the TS bases and Section 4.4.5 was identified. Specifically, the bases for Section 4.4.5 stated that the purpose of the Control Room Air Treatment System is to "maintain the control room pressure to the design positive pressure so that all leakage should be out-leakage." Section 4.4.5, however, did not contain any provision for assuring that the system is capable of achieving design pressure. Following modifications to the Control Room Air Treatment System during the Spring 1986 refueling outage, the licensee submitted the August 22, 1986 application for amendment to Section 4.4.5. The proposed amendment adds a surveillance requirement verifying that the control room air treatment system shall be shown to maintain a positive pressure within the control room of greater than one sixteenth of an inch (water) relative to areas adjacent to the control room. This surveillance requirement ensures that, under accident conditions, all leakage should be out-leakage. This requirement satisfies the licensee's commitment to the staff in the June 11, 1985 TS Amendment 73 Safety Evaluation and is therefore acceptable.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change to a requirement with respect to the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes to the surveillance requirements. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously

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issued a proposed finding that this amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement nor environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security nor to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: J. Kelly

Dated: February 10, 1987

