

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

March 25, 1987

Docket No. 50-220

Mr. C. V. Mangan Senior Vice President Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation 301 Plainfield Road Syracuse, New York 13212

Dear Mr. Mangan:

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO UTILIZE AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 50.55a(g) (TAC 61181)

Re: Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1.

By letter dated December 11, 1986, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation submitted a request for approval to utilize an alternative to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) as provided for by Section 50.55a(a)(3) in the case of hardship or unusual difficulties. Specifically, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation requested relief from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code, Section XI, paragraph IWA 5250(a)(2) which states that the source of leakages detected during the conduct of a system pressure test shall be located and evaluated by the Owner for corrective measures as follows: repairs or replacements of components shall be performed in accordance with IWA-4000 or IWA-7000, respectively. Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation requested approval to utilize the alternative set forth in its request dated December 11, 1986, in lieu of compliance with the requirements of ASME Code Section XI, paragraph IWA 5250(a)(2) with respect to the testing and repair of the Control Rod Drive Stub Tubes.

The staff has reviewed the above submittal and concludes (1) that the proposed alternative program may be used in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3) since it has been demonstrated that compliance by the licensee with 10 CFR 50.55a(g) and ASME Code, Section XI, paragraph IWA 5250(a)(2), would result in hardship or unusual difficulties without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety, (2) that the proposed alternatives provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, and (3) that granting relief where the code requirements are impractical is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property, or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest considering the burden that could result if they were imposed on the facility. Accordingly, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i) as provided for by Section 50.55a(a)(3), Niagara

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## Mr. C. V. Mangan

March 25, 1987

Mohawk Power Corporation is authorized to utilize the alternative set forth in its request dated December 11, 1986 in lieu of compliance with the requirements of ASME Code Section XI, paragraph IWA 5250(a)(2) with respect to Control Rod Drive Stub Tube testing and repair at Nine Mile Point Unit 1. A copy of our Safety Evaluation is enclosed.

## Sincerely,

Original signed by

Rajender Auluck, Acting Director BWR Project Directorate #1 Division of BWR Licensing

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc: See next page

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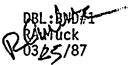
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Dear Mr. Mangan:

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO UTILIZE AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 50.55a(g) (TAC 61181)

Re: Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1.

By letter dated December 11, 1986, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation submitted a request for approval to utilize an alternative to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) for the hydrostatic pressure testing of Control Rod Drive Stub Tubes at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1.

The staff has reviewed the above submittal and concludes that the proposed testing program provides an acceptable alternative to 10 CFR 50.55a(g) and Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code. The staff also concludes that granting relief where the Code requirements are impractical is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property, or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest considering the burden that could result upon Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation if the Code requirements were imposed upon Nine Mile Point Unit 1. Accordingly, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i) of the Commission's regulations, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation is granted the requested approval to utilize an alternative to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) and Section XI of the ASME Code for the hydrostatic pressure testing of the control rod drive stub tubes. A copy of our Safety Evaluation is enclosed.

Sincerely, , Acting Director BWR Project Directorate #1 Division of BWR Licensing

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

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