

JUL 12 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: James T. Wiggins, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch No. 1  
Division of Reactor Projects

FROM: William A. Cook, Senior Resident Inspector  
Nine Mile Point Units 1 and 2

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT FOR NINE MILE POINT UNITS 1 AND 2 FOR THE  
PERIOD OF JUNE 3, 1989 - JULY 11, 1989

1. Plant Status:

Unit 1:

The unit remains in cold shutdown with the core off-loaded.

Unit 2:

The unit operated at 100% power (with the exception of two minor power reductions on July 6 and July 10, 1989), since April 24, 1989. As of July 11, 1989, the facility has operated for 78 days consecutively, greatly surpassing the previous record of 28 days.

2. Items of Special Interest:

- a. (Units 1&2): A meeting was held at the Niagara Mohawk Training Center on June 7, 1989, between the licensee and the NRC to discuss the NRC Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) which covered the period from March 1, 1988 to February 28, 1989. The licensee subsequently submitted their response (letter dated June 23, 1989), to the SALP and in it addressed their proposed actions to improve their performance.
- b. (Unit 1): On June 21, 1989, a meeting was held between the licensee and NRC management in Region I to discuss the licensee's self-assessment process. The NRC's overall assessment of the licensee's process was positive. Niagara Mohawk has taken substantial efforts to create an effective and well-balanced process to critically review their operation.
- c. (Unit 1): On June 12-16, 1989, a followup inspection to the SSFI conducted in September-October 1988 was conducted by inspectors from NRR, Region I and an NRC contractor. The inspection team determined that while the licensee has made progress in resolving the concerns raised by the SSFI, several substantial safety issues remain unresolved pending testing of the core spray system prior to plant startup.

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- d. (Unit 2): On July 6, 1989, the licensee entered Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.3.4.1(d) due to a fault identified in the Redundant Reactivity Control System (RRCS) which controls, among other systems, the ATWS Recirculation Pump Trip. The fault had been identified by I&C technicians on July 3, 1989, but the licensee originally thought that the source of the fault was in the RRCS test circuitry and not the system logic. As a result of this delayed identification of their entry into LCO 3.3.4.1(d), the licensee was forced to commence a reactor shutdown. That shutdown was terminated after one hour (at approximately 90% power) when I&C technicians successfully repaired the fault and tested the system.
- e. (Unit 2): On July 10, 1989, the licensee reduced power to 70% due to clogging in the cooling tower basin discharge strainers. Investigation by the licensee has identified that an apparent break in a cooling tower circulating water distribution pipe has caused a portion of the fill material, which directs cooling air flow, to break away. The licensee is currently assessing the extent of the damage and is removing the fill material debris from the strainers. A unit shutdown is being considered by the licensee so that repairs may be made.

3. Activities Planned:

Unit 1:

- 1) Evaluation of appropriate enforcement actions regarding an OI report on Operator Requalification Training Certificates (and other unrelated issues) is in progress.
- 2) The tentative schedule for Unit 1 restart is as follows:
  - Core reload in early August, 1989
  - Unit restart in early October, 1989

The critical path item to core reload is the required modification to several large bore pipe supports identified as part of the licensee's expanded Inservice Inspection program.

- 3) A review of the harassment/intimidation issue raised by Mr. D. Ellison is tentatively scheduled to commence on site the week of August 21, 1989.
- 4) Commission briefing scheduled for August 2, 1989, on the status of Nine Mile Point Unit 1.



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Unit 2 :

- 1) Requalification exam review scheduled for the weeks July 17 and 24, 1989.
- 2) Commissioner Curtis visit on August 14, 1989 (both units).
4. Onsite NRC Coverage:

One senior resident and two resident inspectors have been assigned onsite for the entire period. Inspection coverage was also provided on an interim basis by section Reactor Engineer Richard Barkley.

5. Cummulative Summary of Significant Events:

- 7/25/88 EDO and Regional Adminsitrator visit and meetings on-site. CAL 88-17 delivered.
- 7/27/88 Licensee announces management changes.
- 7/28/88 Restart Task Force charter and members announced.
- 8/01/88 New Unit 1 station superintendent (K. Dahlberg) takes over.
- 8/16/88 Licensee issues Stop Work Order to Unit 1 ISI contractor (NES).
- 8/18/88 Regional Administrator meets with licensee personnel and senior corporate officials to discuss corrective actions.
- 9/12/88 SSFI begins reviewing CS and HPCI systems (Unit 1).
- 9/14/88 ISI Stop Work Order lifted.
- 9/21/88 Regional senior staff meets with the licensee to discuss restart issues.
- 10/01/88 Unit 2 mid-cycle outage commences.
- 10/18/88 Senior management meeting in Region I office to discuss Unit 1 Restart Action Plan scope and content.
- 10/24/88 NMPC announces selection of Lawrence Burkhardt as the new Executive Vice President of Nuclear Operations.
- 12/08/88 NMP notifies NRC that Unit 2 Division I ADS logic was inoperable.
- 12/21/88 Regional Administrator briefs the Commission of station performance.
- 12/22/88 NMPC presents RAP to the NRC in Region I.
- 01/26/89 NRC/NMPC meeting at the NMPC training center on the RAP.
- 02/02/89 Unit 2 Enforcement Conference on Division I ADS wiring error.
- 03/02/89 Exit meeting for the Special Team Inspection led by Anthony Gody.
- 03/13/89 NRC/NMPC meeting in Region I on the RAP.
- 04/13/89 NMP 1 & 2 SALP Board meeting in Region I.
- 05/16/89 Unit 1 annual emergency drill with NRC participation.



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- 06/01/89 Regional Administrator briefs the Commission on the status of NRC monitoring of Units 1 & 2.  
06/07/89 SALP management meeting with NMPC.  
06/21/89 NRC/NMPC meeting in Region I to discuss the licensee's self-assessment process.

Original Signed By

William A. Cook, Senior Resident Inspector  
Nine Mile Point Units 1 and 2

cc:

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