



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

September 17, 1990

Docket No. 50-220

Mr. Lawrence Burkhardt III
Executive Vice President, Nuclear Operations
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Dear Mr. Burkhardt:

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 86-01, "SAFETY CONCERNS ASSOCIATED
WITH PIPE BREAKS IN THE BWR SCRAM SYSTEM". NINE MILE POINT
UNIT 1 (TAC NO. 71392)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Generic Letter 86-01 transmitted the staff's Safety Evaluation Report regarding the integrity of BWR scram discharge piping systems. The staff report endorsed the Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group letter (BWROG-8420) regarding periodic visual verification of the scram system piping integrity. BWROG-8420 recommended that licensees of plants with ASME Code Class 2 scram discharge volume piping perform an additional inspection once per refueling cycle consisting of a post-scram walkdown of the piping. BWROG-8420 also recommended that each utility individually evaluate and endorse the group position.

By letter dated December 15, 1986, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) proposed to replace the post-scram walkdown inspection described in BWROG-8420 with a hydrostatic test in accordance with the ASME Code Section XI 1983 Edition, Summer 1983 Addenda, IWA-5000 and IWC-5000, for Nine Mile Point Unit 1.

In response to the staff's request for the bases for not performing a post-scram inspection as recommended in BWROG-8420 and justification to show that the hydrostatic test is equivalent to a post-scram walkdown inspection in detecting piping system leakage, NMPC provided the necessary information by letter dated April 2, 1990. The staff has reviewed this response and on the basis of its review, concludes that NMPC has provided adequate justification to

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Mr. Lawrence Burkhardt

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perform a hydrostatic test in lieu of a post-scam walkdown. The proposed hydrostatic test therefore satisfies the staff position in Generic Letter 86-01 regarding the scram system piping integrity. This completes our review of activities associated with TAC No. 71392.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Quindley for Robert Martin".

Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. L. Burkhardt III
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station,
Unit No. 1

cc:

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Albany, New York 12223

Mr. Lawrence Burkhardt

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perform a hydrostatic test in lieu of a post-scam walkdown. The proposed hydrostatic test therefore satisfies the staff position in Generic Letter 86-01 regarding the scam system piping integrity. This completes our review of activities associated with TAC No. 71392.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Daniele Oudinot for
Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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