



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 128 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-63

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION
NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-220

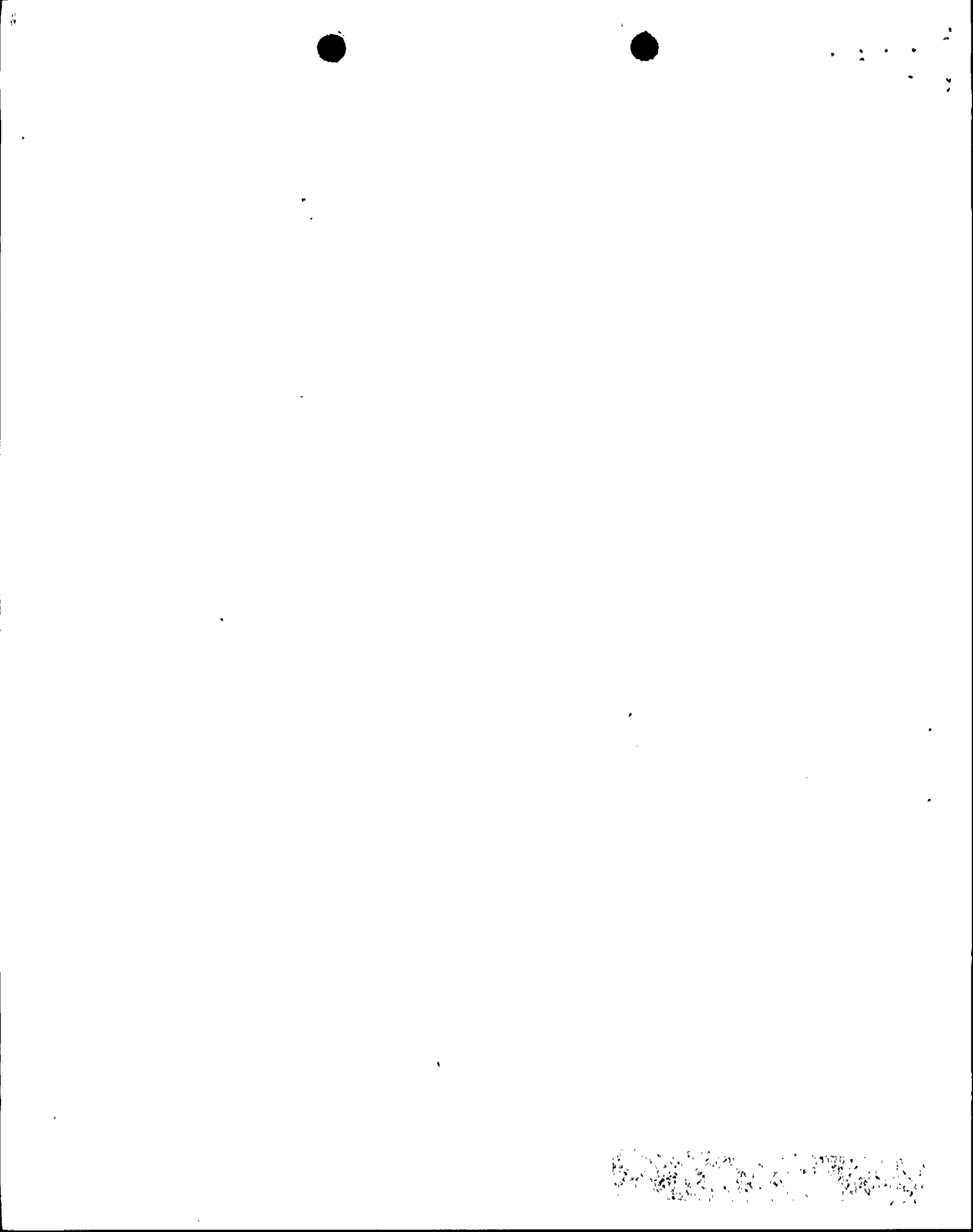
1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated March 10, 1992, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit No. 1, Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would revise Technical Specifications (TS) 4.1.2 (Liquid Poison System), 4.1.3 (Emergency Cooling System), 4.1.4 (Core Spray System), 4.1.6 (Control Rod Drive Pump Coolant Injection), 4.1.8 (High Pressure Coolant Injection), 4.3.7 (Containment Spray System), and 4.4.4 (Emergency Ventilation System) to delete the current requirements to demonstrate, by testing, that a redundant system/component is operable when a system/component is declared inoperable. These testing requirements would be replaced by requirements to verify that the redundant system/component is operable. These operability verifications would be accomplished by administrative checks of appropriate plant records (e.g., appropriate surveillance records, temporary modification logs, equipment tagging records, operating logs, and shift turnover logs). Conforming changes would be made to Definition 1.2 (Operable) and to the Bases for TS 4.4.4. Administrative changes to delete superseded material and to renumber affected paragraphs would also be made to TS 3.1.3, 4.1.3, 3.3.7, and 4.3.7.

2.0 EVALUATION

The requirement to demonstrate the operability, by testing, of a redundant system/component when a system/component is declared inoperable is a typical requirement that was included in technical specifications when Nine Mile Point Unit 1 was granted its operating license. However, based on further operating experience, the NRC staff subsequently dropped such testing requirements. Testing of redundant systems/components is not required in the NRC's Standard Technical Specifications nor in recently issued technical specifications. Deletion of such testing requirements was implemented by the NRC staff since the added operability assurance provided by such testing is not sufficient to justify the loss of safety function during the test, provided the periodic surveillance testing is current and that there are no known reasons to suggest that the redundant system/component is inoperable. The periodic surveillance tests and the proposed verifications that the redundant systems/components are

9205290179 920518
PDR ADDCK 05000220
P PDR



operable are sufficient to demonstrate the operability of the redundant system/component. Therefore, the proposed changes to delete demonstration of operability by testing of redundant system/components are acceptable.

The proposed deletion of superseded material and renumbering of affected paragraphs are only administrative changes and are also, therefore, acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New York State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC 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 issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (57 FR 13133). Accordingly, the 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 or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission 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, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor:
Donald S. Brinkman

Date: May 18, 1992

