



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 39 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-69

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION
NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2

DOCKET NO. 50-410

1.0 INTRODUCTION

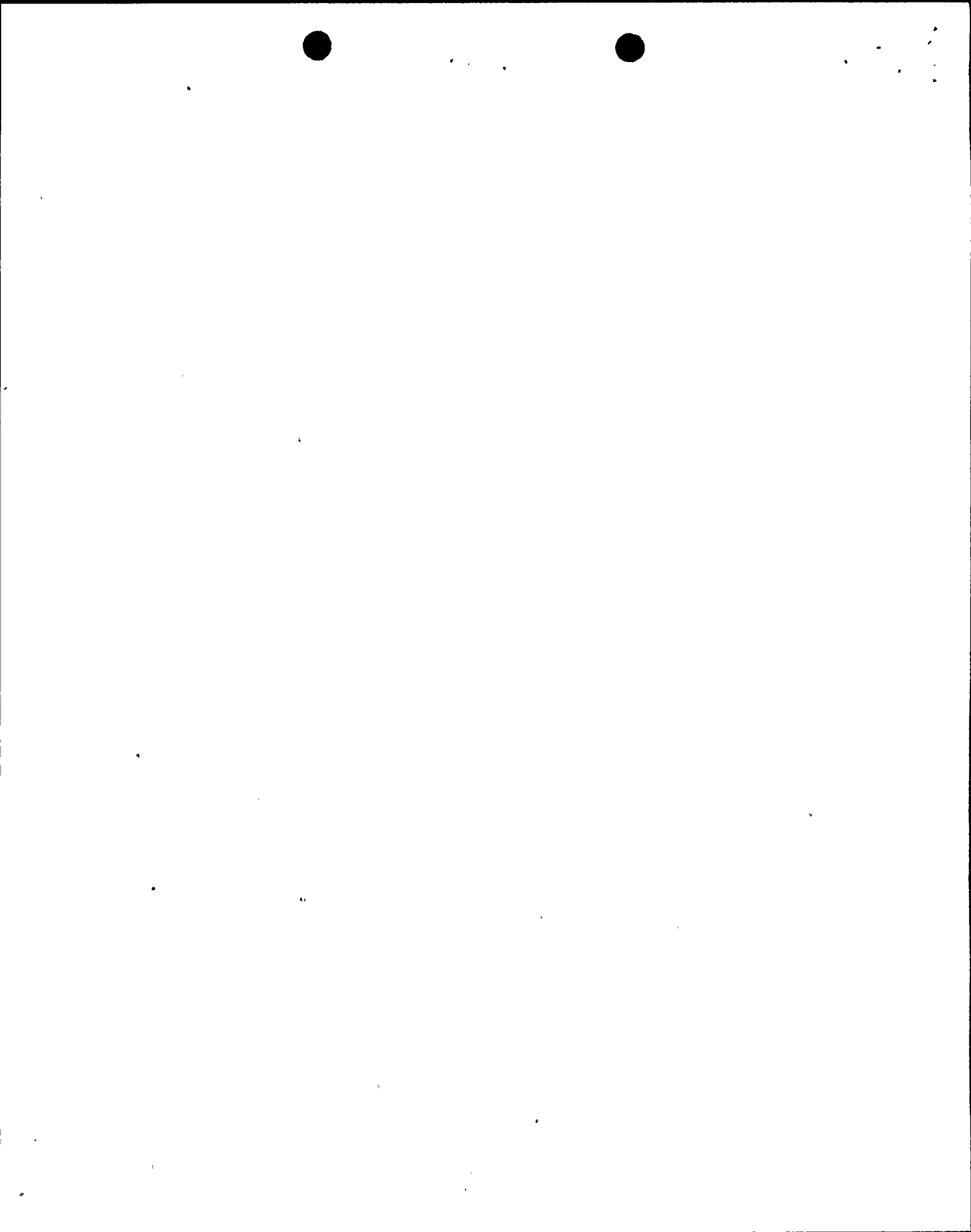
By letter dated September 17, 1992, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would revise TS Tables 3.3.7.2-1 and 4.3.7.2-1 to reflect the relocation of a triaxial peak accelerograph seismic monitor from a reactor recirculation pump motor to the reactor pedestal.

As stated in the licensee's submittal of September 17, 1992, the triaxial peak accelerograph, 2ERS-PAC2C, is a passive, non-safety related instrument that does not control or actuate any systems. This instrument provides a record of peak acceleration following an earthquake for use in determining if continued operation of the plant without a safety analysis is advisable. The seismic monitor was originally located on the motor of the "A" reactor recirculation pump. In a Special Report dated January 16, 1989, the licensee advised the NRC that seismic monitor 2ERS-PAC2C had been declared inoperable as a result of problems attributed to the high (although normal) vibration levels at the pump motor. The seismic monitor was subsequently moved to the reactor pedestal, as discussed in a Special Report to the NRC dated July 9, 1990. The licensee's submittal of September 17, 1992, stated that surveillance testing during two outages in 1991 and during the second refueling outage in 1992 confirmed that background vibration levels at the reactor pedestal were acceptably low.

2.0 EVALUATION

The NRC staff evaluated the relocation of seismic monitor 2ERS-PAC2C and the licensee's request for revisions to TS Tables 3.3.7.2-1 and 4.3.7.2-1 in accordance with the acceptance criteria set forth in Standard Review Plan Section 3.7.4, "Seismic Instrumentation."

The licensee has stated that the new location of triaxial peak accelerograph 2ERS-PAC2C on the reactor pedestal complies with Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.12, "Instrumentation for Earthquakes." The licensee has also stated that the new location will improve the instrument's ability to provide accurate measurements of seismic response. The previous location on the motor of the



"A" reactor recirculation pump was clearly unsuitable. The normal pump motor vibrations resulted in damage to the seismic instrument and readings that would have masked vibration readings from actual seismic activity. Surveillance tests on 2ERS-PAC2C at the new location on the reactor pedestal have confirmed that background vibrations at this location are acceptable and that the accelerograph could distinguish background noise from seismic activity.

The NRC staff has concluded that the relocation of seismic monitor 2ERS-PAC2C to the reactor pedestal and the proposed changes to TS Tables 3.3.7.2-1 and 4.3.7.2-1 are acceptable. This conclusion is based upon continued compliance with RG 1.12 and recognition that relocation of the instrument has enhanced its ability to provide accurate measurements of seismic response.

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

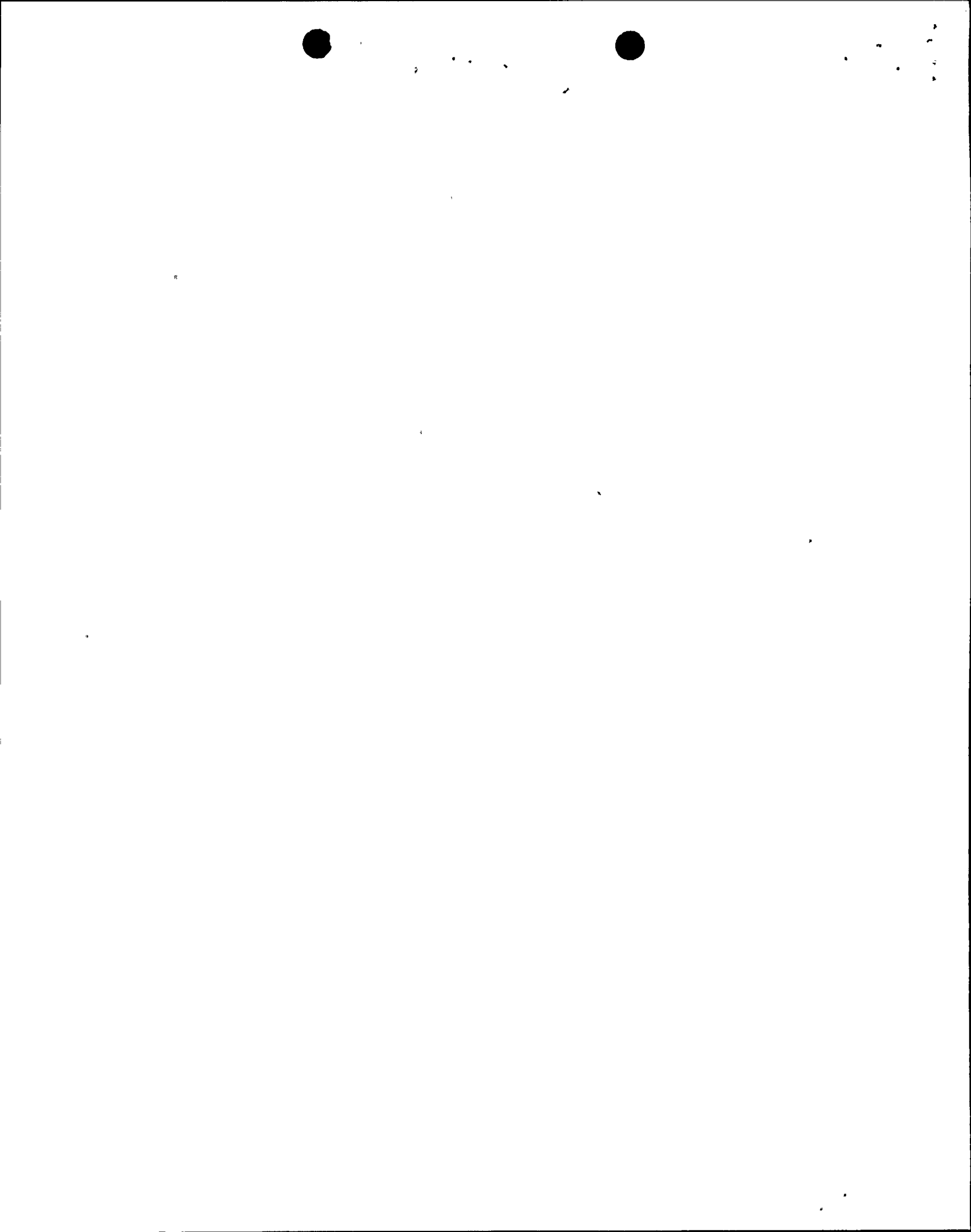
The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of 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 47140). 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:
John E. Menning

Date: November 20, 1992



Attorney for licensee: Mark J. Wetterhahn, Esquire, Winston & Strawn,
1400 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-3502.

NRC Project Director: Robert A. Capra

Original Signed By:

John E. Menning, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File
PDI-1 Reading
JMenning
CVogan
RACapra
OGC

OFFICE	PDI-1:LA	PDI-1:PM	PDI-1:D		
NAME	CVogan <i>CV</i>	JMenning <i>JEM</i>	RACapra <i>RA</i>		
DATE	12/23/92	12/28/92	12/28/92	/ /	/ /

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

FILENAME: G:\SHOLLY\NM285168.BWN



.....

.....

.....

.

.

.

November 20, 1992

Docket No. 50-410

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT FOR NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION,
UNIT 2 (TAC NO. M84533)

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 39 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-69 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit 2 (NMP-2). The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your application transmitted by letter dated September 17, 1992.

The amendment revises Technical Specification Tables 3.3.7.2-1 and 4.3.7.2-1 to reflect the relocation of a triaxial peak accelerograph seismic monitor from a reactor recirculation pump motor to the reactor pedestal. The location change was necessary to avoid high background vibration at the original monitor location which could mask readings during actual seismic events.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next regular biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,
Original Signed By:
John E. Menning, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

- Enclosures:
1. Amendment No. 39 to NPF-69
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

OFFICE	PDI-1:LA	PDI-1:PM	NRR/ESGB*	OGC*	PDI-1:D <i>RC</i>
NAME	CVogan <i>W.</i>	JMenning: <i>WJ</i>	GBagchi	MZobler	RACapra
DATE	11/19/92	11/18/92	11/09/92	11/16/92	11/19/92

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY
FILENAME: G:\NMP2\NM284533.AMD

