



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

December 23, 1992

Docket No. 50-220

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

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

SUBJECT: CONDENSATION OSCILLATION LOADS IN NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION
UNIT NO. 1 TORUS (TAC NO. M85003)

In combined Inspection Report Nos. 50-220/89-28 and 50-410/89-24 the NRC staff concluded that the minor but ongoing corrosion of the internal surfaces of the Nine Mile Point Unit 1 containment torus would permit the plant to operate safely for one more fuel cycle (cycle now scheduled to end February 19, 1993). By letter dated May 14, 1991, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) submitted for NRC staff review, a revised methodology for calculation of unstable condensation oscillation (CO) loads within the torus. NMPC believes the revised method is a more realistic method for calculation of CO loads than the procedures previously submitted by NMPC in September 1984 and approved by the NRC staff in a letter and enclosed safety evaluation dated January 22, 1985. The NRC staff reviewed the May 14, 1991, submittal and documented this review in a safety evaluation dated August 25, 1992. In its August 25, 1992, safety evaluation, the NRC staff found the methodology presented in the May 14, 1991, submittal to be acceptable as an alternative to the method approved by the NRC staff on January 22, 1985. In its August 25, 1992, safety evaluation, the NRC staff did not approve the use of both methods to be used in combination.

By letter dated November 23, 1992, NMPC responded to the NRC staff's August 25, 1992, safety evaluation and stated that NMPC had determined that the NRC staff's evaluation of the May 14, 1991, submittal was inconsistent with NMPC's method of analysis. In its November 23, 1992, letter, NMPC requested that the NRC re-review the May 14, 1991, submittal in conjunction with additional information provided in an enclosed Teledyne Engineering Services Report dated November 19, 1992. The Teledyne Engineering Services Report was provided to support NMPC's contention that both the method presented in September 1984 and the method presented in the May 14, 1991, submittal may be combined. NMPC also proposed to continue to defer implementation of torus modifications and to operate NMP1 for at least one more fuel cycle without modifications to the torus. These proposals were based on an adequate remaining margin in the torus walls and the present corrosion rate of the torus walls.

280010

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

9212310074 921223
PDR ADCK 05000220
P PDR

[Handwritten signature]
DFOI 10



3
2
1

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia

- 2 -

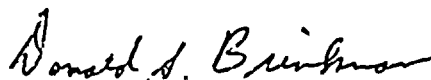
December 23, 1992

The NRC staff has performed a preliminary review of the NMPC proposals and has determined that there is nothing in the May 14, 1991, submittal that negates our January 22, 1985, approval of the procedures submitted in September 1984. We have also determined that because of the complexity of the CO phenomena, we will require approximately 12 months to complete the requested re-review. Therefore, we agree that NMPC may continue to operate NMP1 in accordance with the criteria approved in our January 22, 1985, safety evaluation until we complete the requested re-review provided NMPC also performs the torus monitoring programs outlined in our August 25, 1992, safety evaluation.

We recommend that a technical working type meeting be held in mid-February to discuss the details of NMPC's proposals.

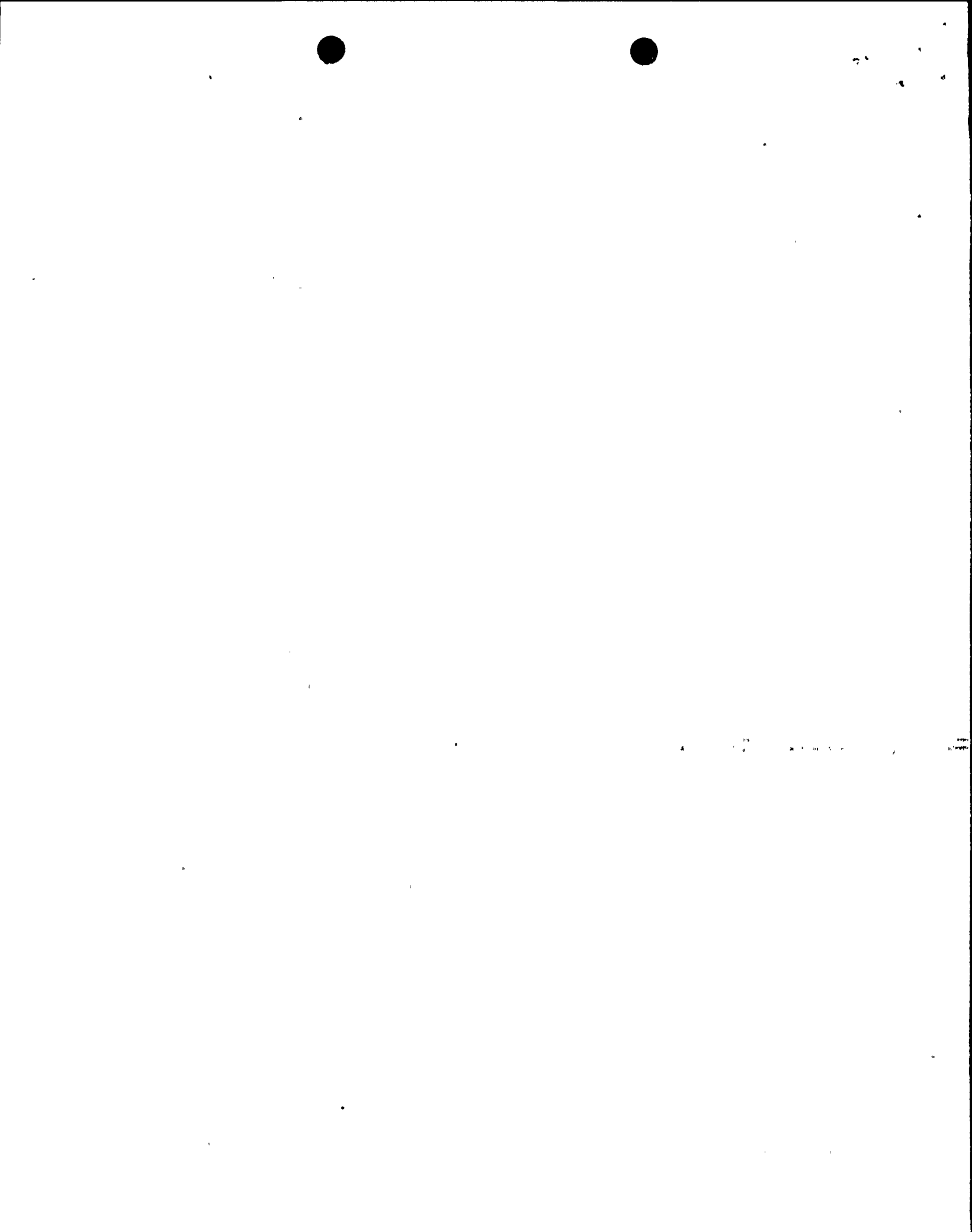
Please contact me on (301) 504-1409 if you have any questions regarding these matters and to arrange the recommended meeting.

Sincerely,



Donald S. Brinkman, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Office of Nuclear
Reactor Regulation Projects - I/II

cc: See next page



Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Unit No. 1

cc:

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

Mr. Kim Dahlberg
Unit 1 Station Superintendent
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Post Office Box 32
Lycoming, New York 13093

Supervisor
Town of Scriba
Route 8, Box 382
Oswego, New York 13126

Mr. David K. Greene
Manager Licensing
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Mr. Neil S. Carns
Vice President - Nuclear Generation
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Post Office Box 32
Lycoming, New York 13093

Charles Donaldson, Esquire
Assistant Attorney General
New York Department of Law
120 Broadway
New York, New York 10271

Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Post Office Box 126
Lycoming, New York 13093

Mr. Paul D. Eddy
State of New York
Department of Public Service
Power Division, System Operations
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223

Gary D. Wilson, Esquire
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Regional Administrator, Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Ms. Donna Ross
New York State Energy Office
2 Empire State Plaza
16th Floor
Albany, New York 12223



11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia

- 2 -

December 23, 1992

The NRC staff has performed a preliminary review of the NMPC proposals and has determined that there is nothing in the May 14, 1991, submittal that negates our January 22, 1985, approval of the procedures submitted in September 1984. We have also determined that because of the complexity of the CO phenomena, we will require approximately 12 months to complete the requested re-review. Therefore, we agree that NMPC may continue to operate NMP1 in accordance with the criteria approved in our January 22, 1985, safety evaluation until we complete the requested re-review provided NMPC also performs the torus monitoring programs outlined in our August 25, 1992, safety evaluation.

We recommend that a technical working type meeting be held in mid-February to discuss the details of NMPC's proposals.

Please contact me on (301) 504-1409 if you have any questions regarding these matters and to arrange the recommended meeting.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Donald S. Brinkman, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Office of Nuclear
Reactor Regulation Projects - I/II

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File
NRC & Local PDRs
PDI-1 Reading
SVarga
JCalvo
RACapra
CVogan
DBrinkman
OGC
RBarrett, SCSB

AD'Angelo, 8/D/1
JKudrick, 8/D/1
ACRS (10)
CCowgill, RGN-1

OFFICE	PDI-1:LA	PDI-1:PM <i>DAB</i>	BE. SCSB <i>[Signature]</i>	PDI-1:D <i>pcw</i>	
NAME	CVogan <i>w</i>	DBrinkman:avl	RBarrett	RACapra	
DATE	12/17/92 <i>f2/22</i>	12/17/92 <i>11/22/92</i>	12/21/92	12/23/92	/ /

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY
FILENAME: NM185003.LTR



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100

101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200