



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 15, 1993

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: REGULATORY GUIDE 1.97 - BOILING WATER REACTOR NEUTRON FLUX  
MONITORING (TAC NO. M79172)

Section 6.2 of Generic Letter 82-33 requested applicants and licensees to provide a report on their implementation of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.97, Revision 2, and methods for complying with the Commission's regulations including supporting technical justification of any proposed deviations or alternatives. A large number of deviation requests were received from Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) applicants and licensees concerning neutron flux monitoring instrumentation. These requests were initially denied.

In support of these requests, the BWR Owners Group submitted NEDO-31558, "Position on NRC Regulatory Guide 1.97, Revision 3, Requirements for Post-Accident Neutron Monitoring System." NEDO-31558 proposed alternate criteria for neutron flux monitoring instrumentation in lieu of the Category 1 criteria stated in RG 1.97.

The staff has completed its evaluation of NEDO-31558, and by letter dated January 13, 1993, to the BWR Owners Group, issued a safety evaluation (enclosed). The safety evaluation concluded that, for current BWR operating license and construction permit holders, the criteria of NEDO-31558 are acceptable. However, for new license applications for both conventional and advanced BWR designs, the RG 1.97 criteria must be met for neutron flux monitoring instrumentation. The staff further concluded that Category 1 neutron flux monitoring instrumentation is not needed for existing BWRs to cope with a Loss-of-Coolant Accident, Anticipated Transient Without Scram, or other accidents that do not result in severe core damage conditions. Instrumentation to monitor the progression of core melt accidents is best addressed by the current severe accident management program.

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) is requested to review the neutron flux monitoring instrumentation at Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (NMP-2) against the criteria of NEDO-31558 to determine whether these criteria are being met, and provide a letter to the NRC documenting the results of this review. If the criteria are not being met, NMPC should either make a commitment to meet the criteria and state when this commitment will be fulfilled, or explicitly state any deviations from the criteria and provide supporting justification.

9304230162 930415  
PDR ADDOCK 05000410  
P PDR

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

MAY  
DF01  
111



Small, illegible marks or characters in the top right corner.

Faint, illegible text or markings at the bottom right of the page.

April 15, 1993

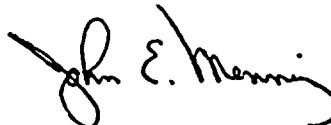
The criteria of NEDO-31558 include the use of uninterruptible and reliable power sources. The BWR Owners Group and the staff agree that redundant neutron flux monitoring channels should be powered from different uninterruptible power supplies (UPS), so that loss of a single UPS would not cause the loss of all channels. NMPC is, therefore, requested to perform a plant-specific evaluation to review the power supplies to neutron flux monitoring instrumentation, including recorders. This review should verify that power would not be lost during design basis events by load shedding logics or similar schemes, and that a single power supply failure would not cause the loss of all channels. The results of this review should be indicated in NMPC's response to the staff concerning this issue.

Since neutron flux monitoring instrumentation for BWRs is no longer considered to be Category 1 instrumentation, NMPC may request the removal of neutron flux monitoring instrumentation from the NMP-2 post-accident monitoring technical specifications. If NMPC wishes to maintain a post-accident monitoring technical specification on this instrumentation, you may do so.

Please notify the NRC, within 60 days of receipt of this letter, of the actions NMPC plans to take and the schedule for implementation. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at (301) 504-1406.

This request for information was approved by the Office of Management and Budget under clearance number 3150-0011 which expires June 30, 1994. Comments on burden and duplication may be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Reports Management Room 3208, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Sincerely,



John E. Menning, 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. B. Ralph Sylvia  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
Unit No. 2

cc:

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

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

Mr. Richard Goldsmith  
Syracuse University  
College of Law  
E. I. White Hall Campus  
Syracuse, New York 12223

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

Resident Inspector  
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
P. O. Box 126  
Lycoming, New York 13093

Mr. Richard M. Kessel  
Chair and Executive Director  
State Consumer Protection Board  
99 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12210

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

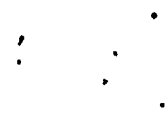
Mr. Martin J. McCormick Jr.  
Plant Manager, Unit 2  
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
P. O. Box 32  
Lycoming, New York 13093

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  
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
P. O. Box 32  
Lycoming, New York 13093

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

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



FILENAME: NM279172.LTR

DATED: April 15, 1993

Ⓞ Docket File  
NRC & Local PDRs  
PDI-1 Reading  
SVarga  
JCalvo  
RACapra  
CVogan  
JMenning  
AHansen, 13/E/21  
BMarcus, 8/H/3  
OGC  
ACRS (10)  
CCowgill, RGN-1

cc: Plant Service list

190038

