



UNITED STATES
 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
 REGION I
 475 ALLENDALE ROAD
 KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19400-1415

August 15, 1991

Docket No.: 50-410
 CAL No.: I-91-013

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

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

SUBJECT: Confirmatory Action Letter

On August 13, 1991, a Site Area Emergency was declared due to a plant trip concurrent with a loss of Control Room alarms and other instrumentation at Nine Mile Point Unit 2. Unit 1 was not affected and Unit 2 was appropriately taken to cold shutdown. Because of the potential generic safety significance of the multiple electrical component failures and the challenges their failures presented to operator understanding and response to the imposed transient, the NRC's Executive Director for Operations has upgraded the investigation effort by forming an Incident Investigation Team (IIT). This IIT will replace the Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) presently on site after an orderly transfer of team authority. The IIT Team Leader is Mr. Jack Rosenthal, Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data.

This letter confirms the conversation on August 15, 1991, between Mr. Ralph Sylvia and myself related to this incident and supersedes your commitments documented in our letter of August 13, 1991. With regard to the matters discussed, we understand that you have agreed to cooperate with the IIT and you have taken or will promptly take the following actions necessary to support this investigation.

- (1) Unit 2 will remain in cold shutdown until the Regional Administrator is satisfied that appropriate corrective action has been taken and the plant can safely return to operation.
- (2) Equipment involved in the incident may be quarantined by the IIT or AIT Team Leader. Equipment quarantined by the AIT should continue to be quarantined under the IIT. Personnel access to areas and equipment subject to quarantine should be minimized, consistent with plant safety.

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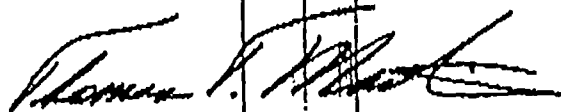
The licensee is responsible for quarantined equipment and can take action involving this equipment it deems necessary to: (a) achieve or maintain safe plant conditions, (b) prevent further equipment degradation, or (c) test or inspect as required by the plant's Technical Specifications.

To the maximum degree possible, these actions should be coordinated with the IIT/AIT team leader in advance or notification made as soon as practical. The IIT/AIT team leader may authorize a release, in whole or in part, of those areas or equipment subject to the quarantine upon a determination that the IIT has received sufficient information concerning the areas or equipment requested to be released, or to permit necessary troubleshooting of the equipment, required testing or maintenance to be performed.

- (3) All records or damaged equipment will be preserved intact that may be related to the event and any surrounding circumstances that could assist in understanding the event. Records shall be retained for at least two years following the event whether or not required to be retained by regulation or license condition.
- (4) The licensee will make available to the IIT for questioning such individuals employed by the licensee or its consultants and contractors with knowledge of the event or its causes as the IIT deems necessary for its investigation.
- (5) The licensee will ensure that any investigation to be conducted by the licensee or a third party will not interfere with the IIT investigation. The licensee will advise the IIT of any investigation to be conducted by the licensee or a third party. Reports of such investigation will be promptly provided to the IIT.

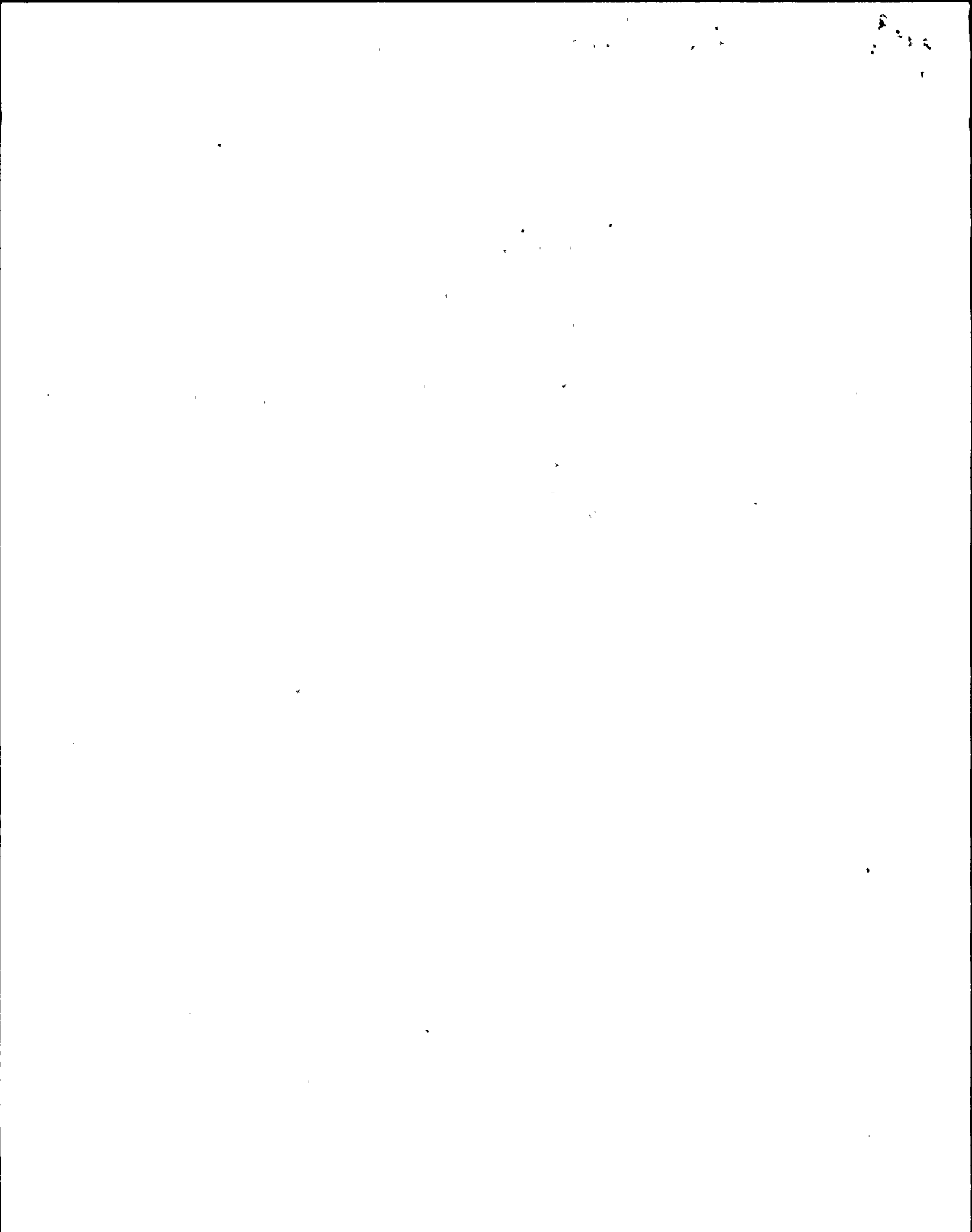
Issuance of this confirmatory action letter does not preclude the issuance of an order formalizing your commitments. The above commitments may be relaxed for good cause. If your understanding differs from that set forth above, please call me immediately.

Sincerely,



Thomas T. Martin
Regional Administrator

cc: See Next Page



08/15/91

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NRC RI DOCKET ROOM

NO. 715

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cc: J. Firlit, Vice President - Nuclear Generation
C. Terry, Vice President - Nuclear Engineering
J. Perry, Vice President - Quality Assurance
S. Wilczek, Jr., Vice President - Nuclear Support
K. Dhlberg, Unit 1 Plant Manager
M. McCormick, Unit 2 Plant Manager
D. Greene, Manager - Licensing
J. Warden, New York Consumer Protection Branch
G. Wilson, Senior Attorney
Director, Power Division, Department of Public Service,
State of New York
State of New York, Department of Law
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New York, SLO Designee

