

Docket File



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555
July 1, 1991

Docket No. 50-220

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13211

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

SUBJECT: STATION BLACKOUT RULE SAFETY EVALUATION - NINE MILE POINT
NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1 (TAC NO. 68570)

On July 21, 1988, the Code of Federal Regulations, 10 CFR Part 50, was amended to include a new Section 50.63, entitled, "Loss of All Alternating Current Power," (Station Blackout). The station blackout (SBO) rule requires that each light-water-cooled nuclear power plant to be able to withstand and recover from a SBO of specified duration. The SBO rule also requires that information defined in the rule be provided to the staff for review.

By letters dated April 13, 1989, April 3, 1990, April 16, 1990, and January 24, 1991, and by teleconference on October 9, 1990 between Mr. Nick Spagnoletti of your staff and the NRC staff, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) responded to the SBO rule. NMPC's responses have been reviewed by the NRC staff and by our contractor, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). The results of the review are documented in the enclosed Safety Evaluation and the SAIC Technical Evaluation Report (TER), SAIC-91/6661, "Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station Unit 1, Station Blackout Evaluation," dated May 15, 1991.

NMPC calculated a minimum acceptable station blackout duration of four hours for Nine Mile Point 1 and indicated that no modifications will be necessary to attain this coping duration.

Based on our review of your responses, we find that the design of Nine Mile Point 1 conforms with the SBO rule, the guidance of Regulatory Guide 1.155, Nuclear Management and Resources Council (NUMARC) 87-00, and NUMARC 87-00 Supplemental Question/Answers and Major Assumptions, dated December 27, 1989, (issued to the industry by NUMARC January 4, 1990). This finding is contingent upon your confirmation, within 30 days from receipt of this letter, of the resolution of the recommendations identified in the enclosed Safety Evaluation and presentation of a schedule for their implementation in accordance with 10 CFR 50.63(c)(4).

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All analyses, confirmations, and other documentation supporting your SBO submittals should be maintained and available for further NRC staff inspection and assessment. The NRC staff is currently considering Technical Specifications (TS) for SBO equipment in context of the TS Improvement Program. In the interim, plant procedures to reflect the appropriate testing and surveillance requirements should be in place to ensure the operability of the necessary SBO equipment. You will be notified if a determination is made that TS are required for SBO equipment.

This requirement for confirmation and information affects one respondent; therefore, is not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under P.L. 96-511.

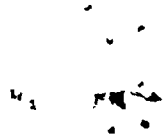
Sincerely,

Donald S. Brinkman

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

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page



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Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

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Unit No. 1

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