



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

November 13, 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: REVISION TO NRC STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PERFORMING ELASTIC-PLASTIC FRACTURE MECHANICS ANALYSIS FOR NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1 REACTOR VESSEL (TAC NO. M83486)

By letter dated August 12, 1992, the NRC staff provided a preliminary response to Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation's (NMPC) response to NRC Generic Letter 92-01, Revision 1, "Reactor Vessel Structural Integrity, 10 CFR 50.54(f)," for Nine Mile Point Unit No. 1 (NMP-1). In the second paragraph of our August 12, 1992, letter, we recommended that NMPC perform an elastic-plastic fracture mechanics analysis to demonstrate that plates in the NMP-1 reactor vessel with Charpy upper shelf energies of less than 50 ft lb have margins of safety against fracture equivalent to those required by Appendix G of the ASME Code. We further recommended that a lower 95 percent confidence value for J_d be used to represent conservative material properties for Levels A, B, and C Service Loadings and a mean value for J_d be used to represent the best estimate properties for Level D Service Loadings. Upon further evaluation we have determined that we should have recommended that in determining the conservative material properties for Levels A, B, and C Service Loadings, the mean value for J_d should be reduced by two standard deviations.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by our change in recommended calculational method. Preliminary discussions with Mr. Nick Spagnoletti of your staff indicate this change in calculational methodology will delay

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submittal of the recommended analysis by approximately 30 days. Although we urge NMPC to complete this analysis as soon as possible, we agree that a delay of up to 30 days may be unavoidable and is acceptable.

Please contact me at (301) 504-1409 if you have any questions regarding this issue.

Sincerely,



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

cc: See next page



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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

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

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

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

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

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



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Original signed by:

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

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