



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 144 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-63

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-220

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated May 26, 1993, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit No. 1 (NMP-1), Technical Specifications (TSs). The requested changes would revise TSs 6.8.2 and 6.8.3c to require approval of plant procedures (and changes thereto) by the Branch Manager for the functional area of the procedure rather than requiring approval of these procedures by the Plant Manager.

2.0 EVALUATION

NMP-1 TS 6.8.2 currently requires that each procedure of TS 6.8.1 and changes thereto be approved by the Plant Manager prior to implementation. The proposed change would revise TS 6.8.2 to require that these procedures and changes thereto be approved prior to implementation by the Branch Manager (or by higher management) for the functional area of the procedure.

NMP-1 TS 6.8.3c currently requires that temporary changes to procedures be approved by the Plant Manager within 14 days of implementation. The proposed change would revise TS 6.8.3c to require that temporary changes to procedures be approved within 14 days of implementation by the Branch Manager (or by higher levels of management) for the functional area of the procedure.

Sections 13.5.1 "Administration Procedures" and 13.5.2 "Operating and Maintenance Procedures" of NUREG-0800, "Standard Review Plan" provide review procedures and criteria for NRC staff review of operating licenses. The results of the NRC staff's review of the NMP-1 application for conversion from a provisional operating license to a full-term operating license were documented in its Safety Evaluation Report for the Conversion From Provisional Operating License to Full-Term Operating License dated July 3, 1974. None of these documents require plant procedures be approved by the Plant Manager. These documents do require preparation and review of plant procedures by qualified personnel. Such requirements are specified in NMP-1 TS 6.5.2 which

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is not being changed. The proposed changes allow and require the person most familiar with the procedure to approve it. The proposed changes also relieve the Plant Manager from the administrative responsibility of approving all plant procedures and thereby permits the Plant Manager to better focus his attention on major safety issues. Therefore, the NRC staff finds the proposed changes acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New York State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment relates to changes in administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor:
Donald S. Brinkman

Date: August 9, 1993



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Docket No. 50-220

August 9, 1993

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

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT FOR NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1
(TAC NO. M86522)

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 144 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-63 for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit No. 1 (NMP-1). The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application transmitted by letter dated May 26, 1993.

The amendment revises TSs 6.8.2 and 6.8.3c to require approval of plant procedures and administrative policies (and changes thereto) by the Branch Manager for the functional area of the procedure rather than requiring approval of these procedures and administrative policies by the Plant Manager.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next regular biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 144 to DPR-63
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

Distribution:
See attached sheet

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