

*Docket file*



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

February 8, 1994

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: GENERIC LETTER 89-10, SUPPLEMENT 5, "INACCURACY OF MOTOR-OPERATED VALVE DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT" - NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2 (TAC NO. M87973)

On June 28, 1993, the NRC staff issued Supplement 5, "Inaccuracy of Motor-Operated Valve Diagnostic Equipment," to Generic Letter (GL) 89-10, "Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valve Testing and Surveillance," requesting nuclear power plant licensees and construction permit holders: (1) to reexamine their motor-operated valve (MOV) programs and to identify measures taken to account for uncertainties in properly setting valve operating thrust to ensure operability and (2) to evaluate the schedule necessary to consider the new information on MOV diagnostic equipment inaccuracy and to take appropriate action in response to that information. Within 90 days of receipt of Supplement 5 to GL 89-10, licensees were required: (1) to notify the NRC staff of the diagnostic equipment used to confirm the proper size, or to establish settings, for safety-related MOVs and (2) to report whether they had taken actions or planned to take actions (including schedule) to address the new information on the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment.

The staff has reviewed the responses, and has found that, for the most part, licensees and permit holders have been actively addressing the uncertainties regarding the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment. The increased inaccuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment can raise questions regarding: (1) the adequacy of torque switch settings to provide sufficient thrust while not exceeding thrust or torque structural limits and (2) the capability of actuator motors at current settings. In their responses, licensees and permit holders indicated that many MOVs had the potential for underthrusting or overthrusting as a result of the higher than expected inaccuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment. Consequently, some licensees reported that MOVs have been retested, adjusted, or modified to resolve the concerns regarding the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment.

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) responded to Supplement 5 for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 by letter dated September 27, 1993. The response stated that NMPC: (1) uses MOV diagnostic equipment manufactured by Liberty Technologies (VOTES), (2) currently uses VOTES 2.31 software, (3) had reviewed previous VOTES test results, and (4) had revised test procedures and

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Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia

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February 8, 1994

calculations in light of the Liberty Technologies' Part 21 notice (October 2, 1992). NMPC further stated that the ITI-MOVATS Thrust Measuring Device is used for MOV diagnostic testing of quarter-turn valves. During a future inspection, the NRC staff will evaluate NMPC's resolution of the MOV diagnostic accuracy issue. In particular, the NRC staff will review NMPC's method for evaluating the VOTES test data and the results of that evaluation.

This completes all efforts on TAC No. M87973. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please call me at (301) 504-1406.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

John E. Menning, 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

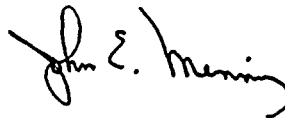
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Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
Unit 2

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