

March 17, 1995

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia  
Executive Vice President, Nuclear  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
P.O. Box 63  
Lycoming, NY 13093

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SUBJECT: NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1 (NMP1), EVALUATION OF INDICATION ON CORE SPRAY SPARGER (TAC NO. M91705)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit our safety evaluation of the subject matter. We have concluded that your evaluation is acceptable and that NMP1 can be safely operated during the 1995-1997 operating cycle.

In a February 23, 1995, telephone conference, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) notified NRC of a crack indication on core spray sparger loop "A", near nozzle 23A. In a letter dated March 6, 1995, NMPC provided an evaluation of the indication, its propensity to grow, and its impact on the structural and hydraulic performance of the sparger. In a letter dated March 14, 1995, NMPC provided a bounding generic loose part analysis. The NMPC evaluation has concluded that NMP1 could safely operate with the flaw until at least the next refueling outage, at which time inspections would again be performed.

The NRC staff has completed its review of the NMPC evaluation and concludes it is acceptable and that NMP1 can be safely operated during the next cycle. The staff understands that NMPC will submit a more detailed loose part analysis by April 30, 1995. In view of the branching nature of the observed indication, we recommend that analysis address the potential impact on safe operation resulting from loose pipe fragments of various sizes.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Gordon E. Edison, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-220

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 17, 1995

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia  
Executive Vice President, Nuclear  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
P.O. Box 63  
Lycoming, NY 13093

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gordon E. Edison".

Gordon E. Edison, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-220

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page



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Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
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