

Docket File
50-220



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

September 22, 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

SUBJECT: NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1 (NMP1), DENIAL OF
AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR CHANGE TO PLANT TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
REGARDING PRESSURE/TEMPERATURE LIMITS (TAC NO. M90288)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit our safety evaluation (SE) of the subject matter. We have concluded that the technical basis provided in your submittal does not support the proposed changes. Accordingly, your amendment request cannot be approved.

In a letter dated September 1, 1994, as supplemented December 5 and 20, 1994, you requested approval to revise the pressure/temperature (P/T) limits in the Technical Specifications, Section 3.2.2. The figures and tables in this section define the limits for minimum reactor vessel temperature for pressurization, and account for neutron damage at exposures up to 18 effective full power years of operation. The proposed new P/T limits were determined using a proposed Charpy shift (embrittlement) model that has no reactor vessel material chemistry dependence.

The NRC staff has completed its review of the license amendment proposed in your letter of December 5, 1994. For the reasons given below, the amendment request is denied.

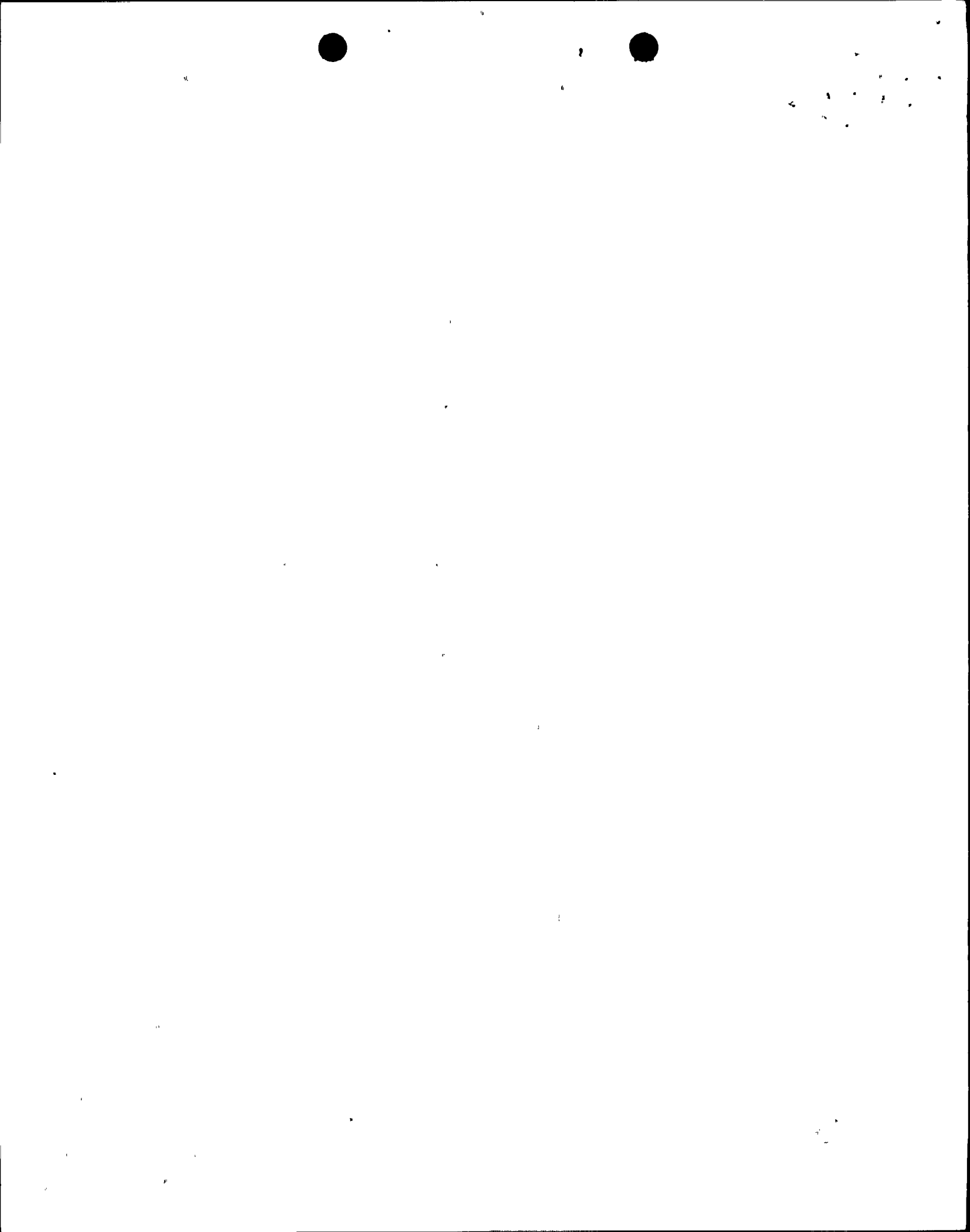
1. The proposed standard deviation in the data is nonconservative and not derived from an analysis of the data.
2. The data used in the analysis do not support the proposed conclusions.
3. The contention that copper plays a minor role in neutron embrittlement conflicts with other data and studies, including NUREG/CR-6231 and NUREG/CR-2948.
4. The proposed model does not bound the copper content of the limiting vessel beltline material.
5. The proposed model is based on a relatively small number of data points.

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Additional details of our review and the basis for the staff's conclusions are provided in the enclosed SE.

A copy of the Notice of Denial of Amendment to be published in the Federal Register is enclosed for your information. By this letter we are closing TAC No. M90288. Questions may be directed to the Licensing Project Manager, Dr. Gordon E. Edison, at 301-415-1448.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures: 1. Safety Evaluation
2. Notice of Denial

cc w/encls: See next page



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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

Ms. Denise J. Wolniak
Manager Licensing
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

Supervisor
Town of Scriba
Route 8, Box 382
Oswego, NY 13126

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

Mr. Richard B. Abbott
Vice President - Nuclear Generation
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

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

Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P.O. Box 126
Lycoming, NY 13093

Mr. Martin J. McCormick, Jr.
Vice President
Nuclear Safety Assessment
and Support
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

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

Regional Administrator, Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Mr. F. William Valentino, President
New York State Energy, Research,
and Development Authority
2 Rockefeller Plaza
Albany, NY 12223-1253

Mr. Norman L. Rademacher
Unit 1 Plant Manager
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093



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