

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

March 20, 1996

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF RELIEF REQUEST MSS-VRR-1 FOR NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2 (TAC NO. M94196)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

By letter dated November 15, 1995, as supplemented March 11, 1996, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) submitted Relief Request MSS-VRR-1, requesting relief from certain inservice testing requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code) with respect to the eighteen main steam safety and relief valves at Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, (NMP2) designated as 2MSS*PSV120 through 2MSS*PSV137. The request regards the requirements of ANSI/ASME OM-1-1981, "Requirements for In-Service Performance Testing of Nuclear Power Plant Pressure Relief Devices," paragraph 1.3.3.1.3(b) "Replacement With Pretested Valves," which requires that as-found pressure relief setpoint testing be performed within 12 months after the valves are removed from the system. These valves were disassembled, rebuilt with a dry film lubricant on their main spring assemblies, and replaced during the 1995 outage for Unit 2. The request seeks a one-time relief from performing as-found setpoint pressure tests on 14 of these 18 valves.

NMPC has determined that compliance with paragraph 1.3.3.1.3(b) would result in hardship and has proposed alternative testing to provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. The NRC staff has reviewed NMPC's relief request, the bases for the request, and the alternatives proposed. Our evaluation and conclusion are contained in the enclosed safety evaluation. On the basis of this evaluation, the one-time relief requested with respect to 14 of the main steam safety and relief valves removed during the 1995 outage for NMP2, is granted.

This letter completes our efforts under TAC No. M94196 which is now closed.

Sincerely,
 ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Susan Frant Shankman, Director
 Project Directorate I-1
 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-220/410

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

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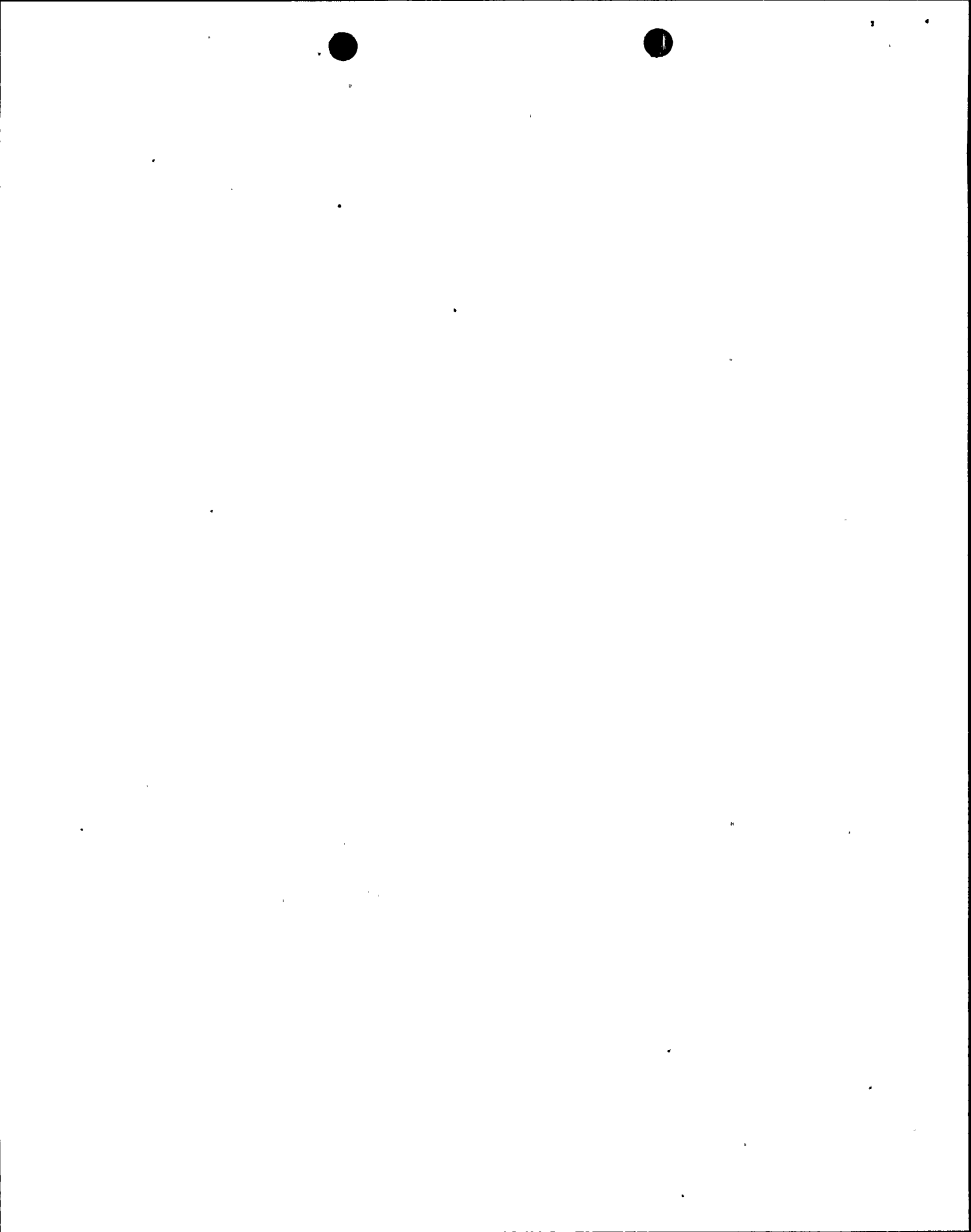
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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 20, 1996

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

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This letter completes our efforts under TAC No. M94196 which is now closed.

Sincerely,


Susan Frant Shankman, Acting Director
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



B. Ralph Sylvia
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Unit 2

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