



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

May 16, 1996

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia  
Executive Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC)  
Generation Business Group D-2  
300 Erie Boulevard West  
Syracuse, NY 13202

SUBJECT: NINE MILE POINT STATION INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT PROCESS  
(IPAP) - NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-220/96-201 AND 50-410/96-  
201 (FINAL)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

During the weeks of March 4 and March 18, 1996, a team under the direction of the Special Inspection Branch of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation completed the second phase of an Integrated Performance Assessment of the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station. This phase of the assessment consisted of on-site observations by the team in the areas of Safety Assessment/Corrective Action, Operations, Engineering, Maintenance, and Plant Support. The results of the on-site assessment have been integrated with those obtained during the team's in-office documentation review, and are summarized in the attached report. The team's recommendations for future inspections are depicted on the Final Performance Assessment/Inspection Planning Tree and is included in Appendix A of the report. The assessment results were discussed with you and members of your staff during a public exit meeting conducted on April 11, 1996, at the Nine Mile Point site.

In general, the team observed Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station to be a well operated facility. Overall, the team recommended that normal NRC inspection resources be assigned to the five performance areas. The team also recommended that increased inspection be focused on specific elements in the performance areas, such as: analysis and evaluation of problems identified through the deviation event report process and the implementation of the emergency preparedness program.

During the on-site inspection the team identified some concerns. NMPC had no procedure for implementing the functions of the independent safety engineering group (ISEG). Although other line organizations reviewed and implemented applicable requirements of NRC Bulletins and Information Notices, the ISEG was not systematically reviewing these activities. Contrary to Technical Specifications for Unit 1, temporary changes were made to a Unit 1 procedure that changed the intent of the procedure. Also, the 10 CFR 50.59 preliminary evaluation of a Unit 1 UFSAR change incorrectly concluded that a safety evaluation was not required.

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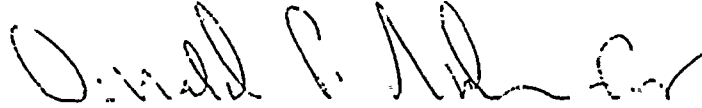
B. Ralph Sylvia

-2-

No response to this letter is required. Any enforcement actions resulting from this assessment will be issued by the NRC Region I office in a separate correspondence.

Should you have any questions concerning the attached report, please contact the assessment team leader, Mr. S.K. Malur, at (301) 415-2963.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Gallo, Chief  
Special Inspection Branch  
Division of Inspection and Support Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Inspection Report

cc: See next page.

B. Ralph Sylvia

-2-

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Sincerely,

Original signed by Donald P. Norkin

Robert M. Gallo, Chief  
Special Inspection Branch,  
Division of Inspection and Support Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Inspection Report

cc: See next page.

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

NRC Inspection Report: 50-220/96-201 License Nos. DPR-63 and NPF-69  
and 50-410/96-201 (FINAL)

Docket Nos.: 50-220 and 50-410

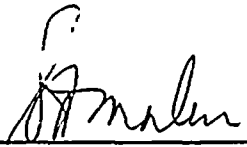
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Facility Name: Nine Mile Point, Units 1 and 2

Inspection Conducted: March 4 through 8, 1996 and March 18 through 22, 1996

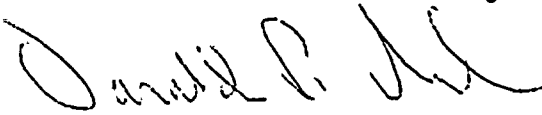
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Robert M. Gallo, Chief  
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5-15-96  
Date

Enclosure



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