



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 26, 1996

Carl D. Terry
Vice President
Nuclear Engineering
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Generation Business Group D-2
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, NY 13202

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE - NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1 (TAC NO. M95100)

Dear Mr. Terry:

By your application dated April 30, 1996, and affidavit dated April 29, 1996, executed by George B. Stramback, General Electric (GE), you submitted "Core Shroud Repair 270° Tie Rod Assembly Assessment, Class III, dated April 1996, and requested that it be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. You also submitted a non-proprietary version for the Public Document Room.

You stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

1. Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by GE's competitors without license from GE constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies;
2. Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product;
3. The information identified is classified as proprietary because it contains detailed results of stress analysis with offset loading considering slipping and new techniques for seismic analyses which GE has developed and applied to the evaluation of boiling-water reactor reactors. The application for which this document is presently being requested is for a hardware design modification (stabilizers for the shroud horizontal welds) intended to be installed in a reactor to resolve the reactor pressure vessel core shroud weld cracking concern. The development and approval of this design modification utilized systems, components, and models and computer codes that were developed at a significant cost to GE, on the order of several hundred thousand dollars.

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The development of the design methods and evaluation process contained in the document along with the interpretation and application of the analytical results is derived from the extensive experience database that constitutes a major GE asset, on the order of several million dollars.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information.

Therefore, the version of the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from the public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Darl S. Hood, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-220

cc: See next page

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C. Terry

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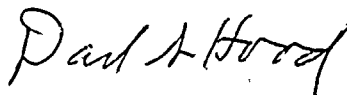
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Sincerely,



Darl S. Hood, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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cc: See next page



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