

50-220/410



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

October 17, 1996

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia
Executive Vice President Generation Business Group
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nuclear Learning Center
450 Lake Road
Oswego, NY 13126

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF SPENT FUEL STORAGE POOL SAFETY ISSUES: ISSUANCE OF
FINAL REPORT, NINE MILE POINT, UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff recently completed a detailed review of spent fuel storage pool safety issues. The results of the staff's review are documented in a report to the Commission which is enclosed for your information. In the report, the staff concludes that existing structures, systems and components related to the storage of irradiated fuel provide adequate protection of public health and safety.

Notwithstanding this finding, the staff has also identified certain design features that reduce the reliability of spent fuel pool decay heat removal, increase the potential for loss of spent fuel coolant inventory, or increase the potential for consequential loss of essential safety functions at an operating reactor. The staff intends to conduct plant-specific regulatory analyses to evaluate potential safety enhancement backfits pursuant to 10 CFR 50.109(a)(3) at a number of operating plants that possess one or more of these design features.

Although Nine Mile Point, Units 1 and 2 are not identified for a plant-specific safety enhancement backfit analysis by the staff, it is requested that you review the enclosed report for applicability to your facility and consider actions, as appropriate, related to the design of spent fuel pool decay heat removal systems at your facility. This letter does not require any response.

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October 17, 1996

B. Sylvia

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (301) 415-3049.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

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

Docket Nos. 50-220
and 50-410

Enclosure: Memo to the Commission, from
J. Taylor, "Resolution of Spent Fuel
Storage Pool Action Plan Issues,"
dated July 26, 1996

cc w/encl: See next page

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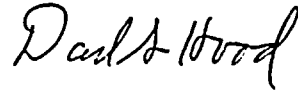
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Darl S. Hood, Senior Project Manager
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cc w/encl: See next page



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