

CATEGORY 1

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SUBJECT: Provides Nine Mile Point Unit 1's final response to NRC
 Bulletin 96-03, "Potential Plugging of Emergency Core
 Cooling Suction Strainers by Debris in BWRs."

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NIAGARA MOHAWK

GENERATION
BUSINESS GROUP

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November 4, 1996
NMP1L 1151

CARL D. TERRY
Vice President
Nuclear Engineering

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

RE: Nine Mile Point Unit 1
Docket No. 50-220
DPR-63

Subject: *NRC Bulletin 96-03, "Potential Plugging Of Emergency Core Cooling Suction Strainers By Debris In Boiling-Water Reactors."*

Gentlemen:

By letter dated May 6, 1996, the Commission issued NRC Bulletin 96-03, "Potential Plugging of Emergency Core Cooling Suction Strainers by Debris in Boiling-Water Reactors." Bulletin 96-03 was issued to have licensees implement appropriate procedural measures and plant modifications to minimize the potential for clogging of emergency core cooling system suppression pool suction strainers by debris generated during a loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA). Also, the Bulletin required that licensees report to the Commission within 180 days as to whether, and to what extent, the requested actions would be taken and to notify the Commission when actions associated with this Bulletin were complete. All licensees were requested to implement these actions by the end of the first refueling outage starting after January 1, 1997.

Subsequent to the issuance of Bulletin 96-03, the Staff requested that each licensee with plants having refueling outages during the Spring of 1997 and that would be unable to meet the schedular requirements of the Bulletin, submit an initial response as soon as possible. Our initial response dated October 4, 1996 provided our bases for not being able to meet the schedular requirements of the Bulletin, plant-specific design features and mitigative strategies, and the interim compensatory actions that would be taken to justify exceeding the schedular requirements. Compensatory Action No. 6 indicated that Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) would change to Reflective Metal Insulation (RMI), or jacket and band the fibrous insulation located in the drywell to the greatest extent practical with final workscope estimates provided in our final response to Bulletin 96-03. The purpose of this letter is to provide Nine Mile Point Unit 1's (NMP1) final response to Bulletin 96-03.

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Niagara Mohawk intends to comply with the requested actions, except the schedular requirements, as delineated in Bulletin 96-03. Current plans are to install a high capacity strainer on the suction lines of our Core Spray and Containment Spray Systems by the end of the 1999 spring outage (REFOUT99). The strainers will be sized and designed in accordance with the Utility Resolution Guidance (URG) currently under development by the Boiling Water Reactors Owners Group (BWROG). The URG is scheduled to be sent to the NRC in late 1996 with the NRC's SER expected sometime in 1997. If plant unique conditions require strainer designs different than those tested by the BWROG, we will test these alternate strainer designs using debris characteristic of that generated from tests conducted by both the NRC and the BWROG. Upon installation of the new strainers, the NMP1 Inservice Inspection (ISI) program will be changed to add suction strainer inspections as an augmented ISI program plan exam with a frequency of each refueling outage.

Regarding our efforts to change to RMI, or jacket and band fibrous insulation located in the drywell, note that less than 5% of the existing insulation in the drywell is fibrous; 95% is RMI. NMPC plans to replace with RMI or jacket and band the remaining fibrous insulation in the drywell to the maximum extent practical. At least 30% of the remaining fibrous insulation will be replaced or changed out depending upon actual field conditions. We have reviewed our surrogate tour (pictures) of the drywell to determine the accessibility of the piping systems, and set a target goal of 50% replacement or changeout.

Very truly yours,



C. D. Terry
Vice President - Nuclear Engineering

CDT/JMT/kap

xc: Regional Administrator, Region I
Mr. S. S. Bajwa, Acting Director, Project Directorate I-1, NRR
Mr. B. S. Norris, Senior Resident Inspector
Mr. D. S. Hood, Senior Project Manager, NRR
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation)	Docket No. 50-220
)	
Nine Mile Point Unit 1)	

C. D. Terry, being duly sworn, states that he is Vice President - Nuclear Engineering of Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation; that he is authorized on the part of said Corporation to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission the document attached hereto; and that the document is true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.



C. D. Terry
Vice President - Nuclear Engineering

Subscribed and sworn before me,
in and for the State of New York
and the County of Oswego,
this 4th day of November, 1996

My Commission expires: 4/2/98

Eunice B. Naklick
NOTARY PUBLIC

Eunice B. Naklick #4964683
Notary Public, State of New York
Qualified in Jefferson County
My Commission Expires April 2, 1998

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