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SUBJECT: Provides supplemental info re power uprate power ascension test program interim startup rept.

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November 14, 1996
NMP2L 1673

RICHARD B. ABBOTT
Vice President and
General Manager - Nuclear

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

RE: Nine Mile Point Unit 2
 Docket No. 50-410
 NPF-69

Subject: *Nine Mile Point Unit 2 Power Uprate Power Ascension Test Program - Interim Report*

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to Nine Mile Point Unit 2 (NMP2) Technical Specifications Sections 6.9.1.1, 6.9.1.2, and 6.9.1.3, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) is providing this letter in regard to the NMP2 "Power Uprate Power Ascension Test Program Interim Startup Report." The interim report was submitted by NMPC in a letter dated November 28, 1995 (NMP2L 1597). Subsequently, this interim report was revised by NMPC letters dated February 23, 1996 (NMP2L 1610), May 20, 1996 (NMP2L 1631), and August 16, 1996 (NMP2L 1654).

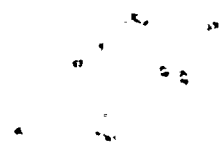
In our revised interim report dated August 16, 1996, NMPC stated that the power uprate power ascension test program could not be completed due to the inability to achieve 105% of rated core flow at 100% of uprated power level. Specifically, a flow limiter had inappropriately prevented operation above 102% of rated core flow. The replacement of function generator cards was performed during Refueling Outage 5 (RFO5), and post-replacement testing was completed. However, during continuing power uprate testing, NMP2 was unable to attain 105% core flow at the NMP2 maximum drive flow limit of 45,000 gpm. NMP2 is continuing its investigation of this condition and will provide an update of the Power Uprate Test Program in its next 90 day interim report.

In addition, repairs of the loose parts monitoring system during the recent refueling outage has allowed the successful completion of Test 120 - Loose Parts Monitor. This test was completed satisfactorily by performance of N2-ISP-RCS-M002, "Monthly Functional Test and Background Noise Level Verification of the Vibration and Loose Parts Monitoring System."

The continued submittal of supplemental reports was required due to the temporary inability to achieve 105% of rated core flow in order to complete the remaining tests. In accordance with

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Technical Specification 6.9.1.3, supplementary reports will be submitted every 90 days until the remaining tests described in our revised interim report have been completed. A final startup report will be submitted within 90 days following completion of the remaining power uprate tests.

Very truly yours,



R. B. Abbott
Vice President and General Manager - Nuclear

RBA/KLL/kap

xc: Mr. H. J. Miller, NRC Regional Administrator
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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