

CATEGORY 1

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SUBJECT: PNO-I-96-093: on 961219, determined NMP-2 not in full compliance w/TS 3.1.3.8, "Control Rod Drive Housing Support" & commenced shutdown. Plant cooldown in progress to allow for drywell entry & completion of required inspections.

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-96-093

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events or POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.	Notification of Unusual Event
Nine Mile Point 2	Alert
Oswego, New York	Site Area Emergency
Docket: 50-410	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: Plant Shutdown Due to Missed Technical Specification Surveillance

At 5:00 p.m., on December 19, 1996, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) determined that Nine Mile Point 2 (NMP-2) was not in full compliance with Technical Specification (TS) 3.1.3.8, "Control Rod Drive Housing Support" and commenced a shutdown. During the shutdown, inspections of the control rod drive (CRD) housing support that were not adequately performed following completion of the recent refueling outage will be reperformed. Specifically, the TS requires that a visual inspection be performed to ensure that the CRD housing support is in place following disassembly and reinstallation. Additionally, the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) requires an inspection of the one (1) inch gap that is to be maintained between the contact surface of the CRD flange and the support grid. The TS visual inspections were performed following completion of the refueling outage, but no verification was made of gap size.

The CRD housing support is a grid-like structure, installed immediately below the bottom head of the reactor vessel, that prevents any significant nuclear transient in the event that a drive housing breaks or separates from the bottom of the reactor vessel.

The missed TS surveillance was identified by NMPC during a review of the UFSAR to validate that necessary programs and procedures are in place.

A reactor shutdown was initiated, and the mode switch was placed in shutdown at 4:02 a.m. on December 20, 1996. A plant cooldown is in progress to allow for the drywell entry and completion of the required inspections.

Following completion of the inspections, NMPC expects to restart NMP-2 on Sunday, December 22, 1996.

This information is current as of 12:00 p.m., December 20, 1996.

The Region I Public Affairs Office is available to respond to media inquiries.

The State of New York has been informed of the information contained in this PN.



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