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SUBJECT: Discusses interim rept re Unit 2 power uprate ascension test program.

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MARTIN J. McCORMICK JR. P.E.
Vice President
Nuclear Engineering

February 11, 1997
NMP2L 1687

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), August 16, 1996 (NMP2L 1654), and November 14, 1996 (NMP2L 1673).

In our revised interim report dated November 14, 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. 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.

The inability to achieve 105% rated core flow does not adversely affect the continued safe operation of NMP2. However, the continued submittal of supplemental reports is required due to the temporary inability to achieve 105% of rated core flow in order to complete the remaining tests. In accordance with Technical Specification 6.9.1.3, supplementary reports will be submitted every 90 days until the remaining tests described in our revised interim

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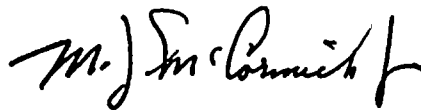
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report have been completed. A final startup report will be submitted within 90 days following completion of the remaining power uprate tests.

Very truly yours,



M. J. McCormick Jr.
Vice President- Nuclear Engineering

MJM/KLL/kap

xc: Mr. H. J. Miller, NRC Regional Administrator
Mr. S. S. Bajwa, Acting Director, Project Directorate I-1, NRR
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