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 50-410 Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Niagara Moha 05000410
 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 DOERFLEIN, L.T. Region 1 (Post 820201)
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 SYLVIA, B.R. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.

SUBJECT: Forwards insp repts 50-220/97-11 & 50-410/97-11 & notice of violation. Staff identification of several tech spec surveillance requirement deficiencies indicate improved questioning attitude.

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December 29, 1997

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

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-220/97-11 AND 50-410/97-11
AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

This report transmits the findings of safety inspections conducted by NRC inspectors at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, from October 5, through November 8, 1997. In addition, the results of a security program inspection performed September 22-26, 1997, are included in this report. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with Mr. Martin J. McCormick, Vice President - Special Projects, and other members of your staff. We are providing one integrated report for all the inspections conducted during this period in order to better consolidate our inspection findings into a consistent regulatory message and more clearly communicate how these findings may reflect a change in your performance.

During this period, your staff operated both units safely. Good oversight by an NMP2 station shift supervisor identified the potential for a non-conservative average power range monitor (APRM) gain setting adjustments. Also, your staff's identification of several technical specification surveillance requirement deficiencies indicate an improved questioning attitude. Notwithstanding, the continuing identification of missed surveillance requirements remains a concern, particularly since the identified deficiencies existed for several years. Some procedural errors resulting from personnel inattention-to-detail were also noted. Specifically, NRC identified that a gain adjustment was made on the incorrect APRM at NMP2, and a procedure step was not performed during a main steam line flow restrictor trip channel calibration at NMP1. These issues indicate continued management attention is warranted in the areas of human performance and the adequacy of surveillance tests.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that violations of NRC requirements occurred. These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding them are described in detail in the subject inspection report. Specifically, the violations involved inadequate surveillance procedures at NMP2, related to the APRMs and the control room pressure envelope. You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

9801080112 971229
PDR ADOCK 05000220
G PDR





Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia

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The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Lawrence T. Doerflein, Chief
Projects Branch 1
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-220, 50-410
License Nos. DPR-63, NPF-69

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report Nos. 50-220/97-11 and 50-410/97-11

cc w/enclosures:

R. Abbott, Vice President & General Manager - Nuclear
C. Terry, Vice President- Safety Assessment and Support
J. Conway, Vice President - Nuclear Engineering
K. Dahlberg, Vice President - Nuclear Operations
D. Wolniak, Manager, Licensing
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J. Vinqvist, MATS, Inc.
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and Development Authority
J. Spath, Program Director, New York State Energy Research
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Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia

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