

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
)
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation)
)
Nine Mile Point Unit 1)

Docket No. 50-220

APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO OPERATING LICENSE

Pursuant to Section 50.90 of the Regulations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC), holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-63 for Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP1), hereby requests that Specification 3.2.2/4.2.2, "Minimum Reactor Vessel Temperature for Pressurization," of the Technical Specifications (TS) set forth in Appendix A to the above License, be revised. NMPC has also submitted the associated changes to the Bases for TS 3.2.2 and 4.2.2. These proposed changes have been reviewed in accordance with Section 6.5 of the TS.

In order to ensure safe operation of a nuclear power plant during heatup, cooldown, and leakage and hydrostatic test conditions, it is necessary to conservatively calculate allowable stress loadings for the ferritic reactor pressure vessel (RPV) materials. These allowable loadings are presented as a plot of measured coolant pressure versus measured coolant temperature (pressure-temperature curves). NMP1 TS Section 3.2.2/4.2.2 contains the existing NMP1 pressure-temperature operating curves. These curves, Figures 3.2.2.a, b, c, d, and e, and their associated Tables are valid for up to 18 effective full power years (EFPYs) of core operation which is estimated to be reached on December 21, 1998. Consequently, NMPC has developed new pressure-temperature curves which permit continued plant operation for up to 28 EFPYs and has proposed the appropriate changes to TS Section 3.2.2/4.2.2 for your review and approval. NMPC has also submitted the associated changes to the Bases for TS 3.2.2 and 4.2.2. Since invalid pressure-temperature curves would require a plant shutdown, NMPC requests approval of this Application for Amendment by December 1, 1998 to provide time to implement the Amendment prior to reaching 18 EFPYs (i.e., December 21, 1998).

The proposed changes will not authorize any change in the types of effluents or in the authorized power level of the facility. Included as Attachment B is a hand-marked version of the proposed changes. Supporting information and analyses which demonstrate that the proposed changes involve no significant hazards considerations pursuant to 10CFR50.92 are included as Attachment C. Attachment D contains Report No. MPM-59838, Pressure-Temperature Operating Curves for Nine Mile Point Unit 1, prepared by MPM Technologies, Inc., for NMPC.

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WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests that Appendix A to Facility Operating License No. DPR-63 be amended in the form attached hereto as Attachment A.

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

By



John H. Mueller
Chief Nuclear Officer

Subscribed and Sworn to before me
on this 19 day of June 1998.



NOTARY PUBLIC

BEVERLY W. RIPKA
Notary Public State of New York
Qual. in Oswego Co. No. 4644879
My Commission Exp. Mar 31, 2000

2/28/00

