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OUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION

AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION AIGGINS, J.T. Region 1 (Post 820201)

RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
MUELLER, J.H. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.

SUBJECT: Forwards insp repts 50-220/98-16 & 50-410/98-16 on 980810-21 & notice of violation. Violation involved failure to properly evaluate & correct indications of low flow condition in core...

spray pump motor cooler in timely manner.

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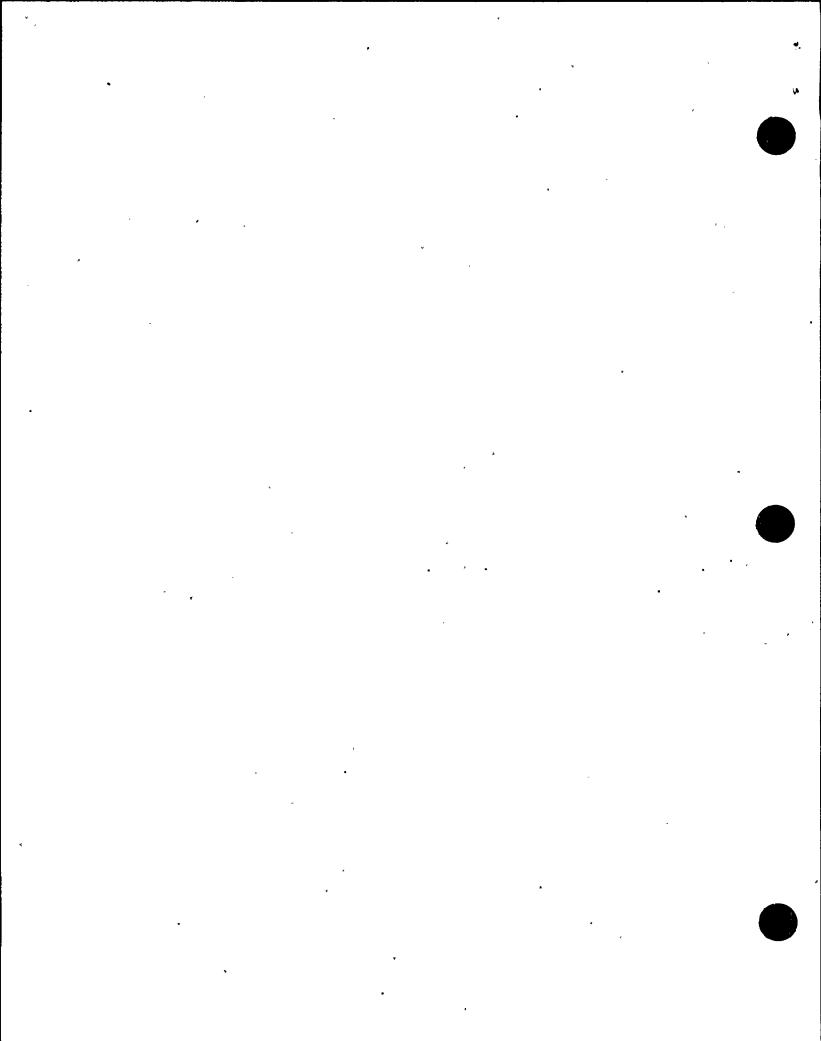
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EA 98-461 EA 98-473

Mr. John H. Mueller
Chief Nuclear Officer
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Operations Building, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT:

NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-220/98-16 and 50-410/98-16

AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Mueller:

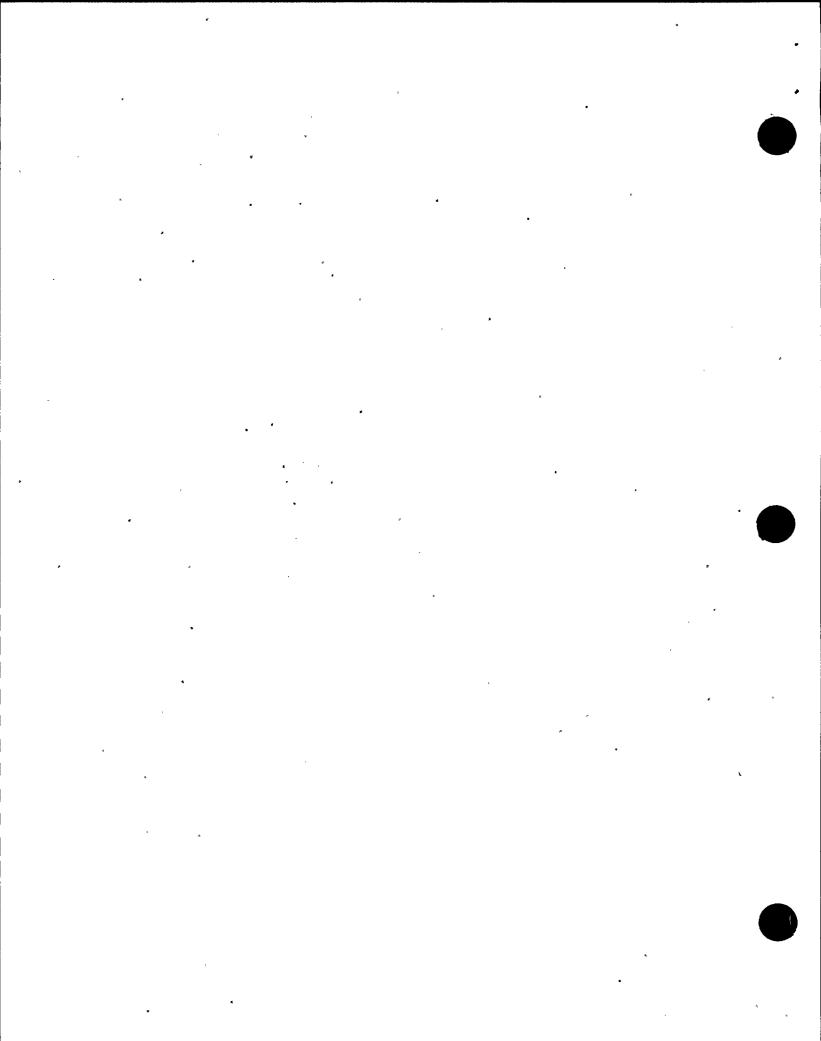
This report transmits the findings of an Safety System Engineering Inspection conducted by Mr. Larry Scholl and others at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, from August 10 through August 21, 1998. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with Mr. R. Abbot, Vice President of Engineering, and other members of your staff on August 21, 1998. The results of additional review and evaluation of information, which were conducted subsequent to the onsite inspection, were discussed with Mr. Gresock on October 26, 1998.

The engineering inspection focused on the Unit 1 Core Spray (CS) system and the Unit 2 Standby Gas Treatment (GTS) system. The inspection team found that the conduct of engineering was generally sound. Although some deficiencies were identified, the engineering performance associated with the systems reviewed was acceptable, and reflected an overall improvement from past performance.

However, the NRC has determined that a violation of NRC requirements occurred. The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding it is described in detail in the enclosed inspection report. Specifically, the violation involved the failure to properly evaluate and correct indications of a low flow condition in a core spray pump motor cooler at Nine Mile Unit 1 in a timely manner. The violation is of concern because it was identified by the NRC after the issues had been previously reviewed in detail by your staff.

For the violation discussed above, the NRC has concluded that information regarding the reason for the violation, the corrective actions taken and planned to correct the violation and prevent recurrence is already adequately addressed on the docket in Licensee Event Report 98-016. Therefore, you are not required to respond to this letter unless the description therein does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position. In that case, or if you choose to provide additional information, you should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed notice.

7811130035 781102 PDR ADDCK 05000220 Q PDR



J. Mueller

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:

James T. Wiggins, Director Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosures: Notice of Violation

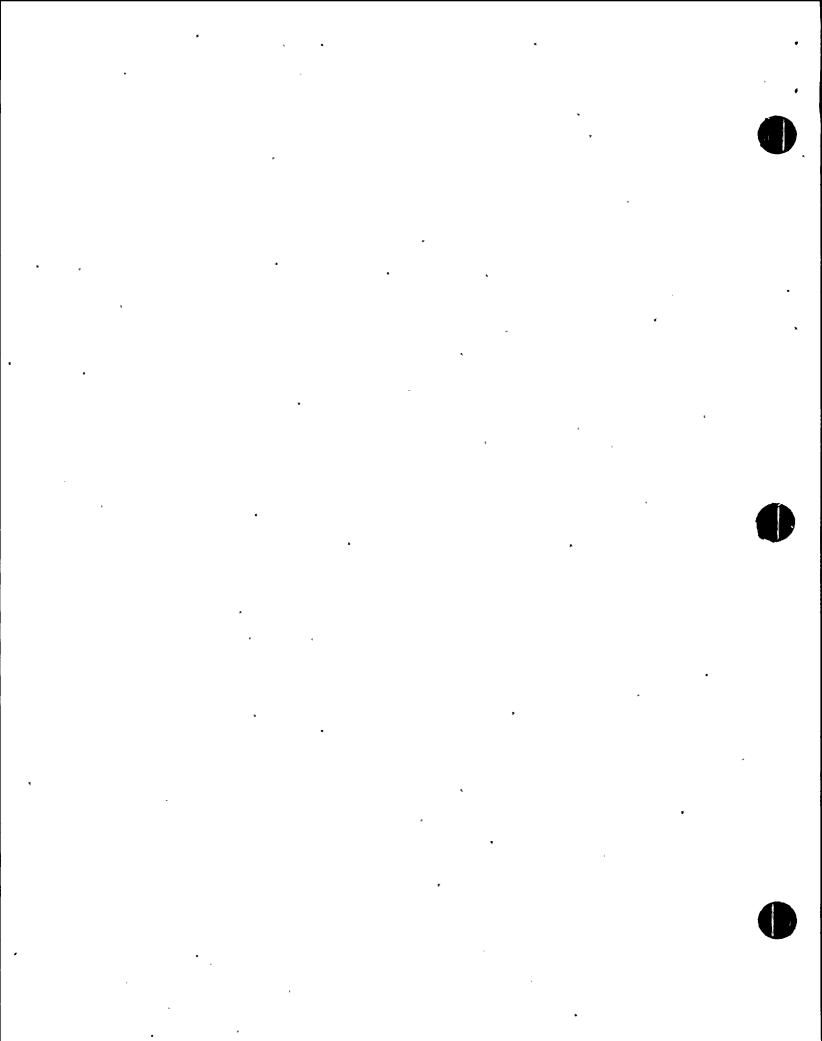
NRC Inspection Report No. 50-220/98-16;50-410/98-16

cc w/encl: --- '

G. Wilson, Senior Attorney

M. Wetterhahn, Winston and Strawn

- J. Rettberg, New York State Electric and Gas Corporation
- P. Eddy, Electric Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York
- C. Donaldson, Esquire, Assistant Attorney General, New York Department of Law
- J. Vinquist, MATS, Inc.
- F. Valentino, President, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
- J. Spath, Program Director, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority



J. Mueller

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