

CATEGORY 1

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 FACIL: 50-410 Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Niagara Moha 05000410
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SUBJECT: PNO-I-98-055: on 981123, Unit 2 commenced shutdown from approx 35% reactor power to address problem with B recirculation loop flow control valve. Licensee suspects mechanical problem with valve actuator inside containment.

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ADK



November 24, 1998

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-98-055

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

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

Subject: SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS TO ADDRESS PROBLEM WITH THE B RECIRCULATION LOOP FLOW CONTROL VALVE.

At 5:47 p.m. on November 23, 1998, Nine Mile Point Unit 2 commenced a shutdown from approximately 35 percent reactor power to address a problem with the B recirculation loop flow control valve (FCV). The B FCV had gone closed on November 13, and caused the operators to reduce reactor power to 62 percent and operate in a single loop configuration while troubleshooting the valve. FCV control circuitry software problems were identified and outside containment valve hydraulic control system hardware repairs were made. However, the November 22 attempt to return the B recirculation loop to service was unsuccessful when the B FCV drifted close after the idled B recirculation pump was restarted. The licensee suspects a mechanical problem with the valve actuator inside containment and elected to shutdown the unit to access the drywell to continue their troubleshooting and repair efforts.

The reactor was shutdown at 10:00 a.m. this morning. The licensee plans to have the unit out of service for a number of days to address the recirculation FCV and to perform other balance of plant maintenance. NMPC issued a press release.

The resident staff closely monitored the B recirculation FCV troubleshooting and loop restoration activities through the past weekend and continue to monitor the unit shutdown evolutions.

The State of New York has been informed.

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