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SUBJECT: Forwards application for amend to license NPF-69 to revise TS Table 3.6.1.2-1, by adding two relief valves, along with associated leak rate criteria.

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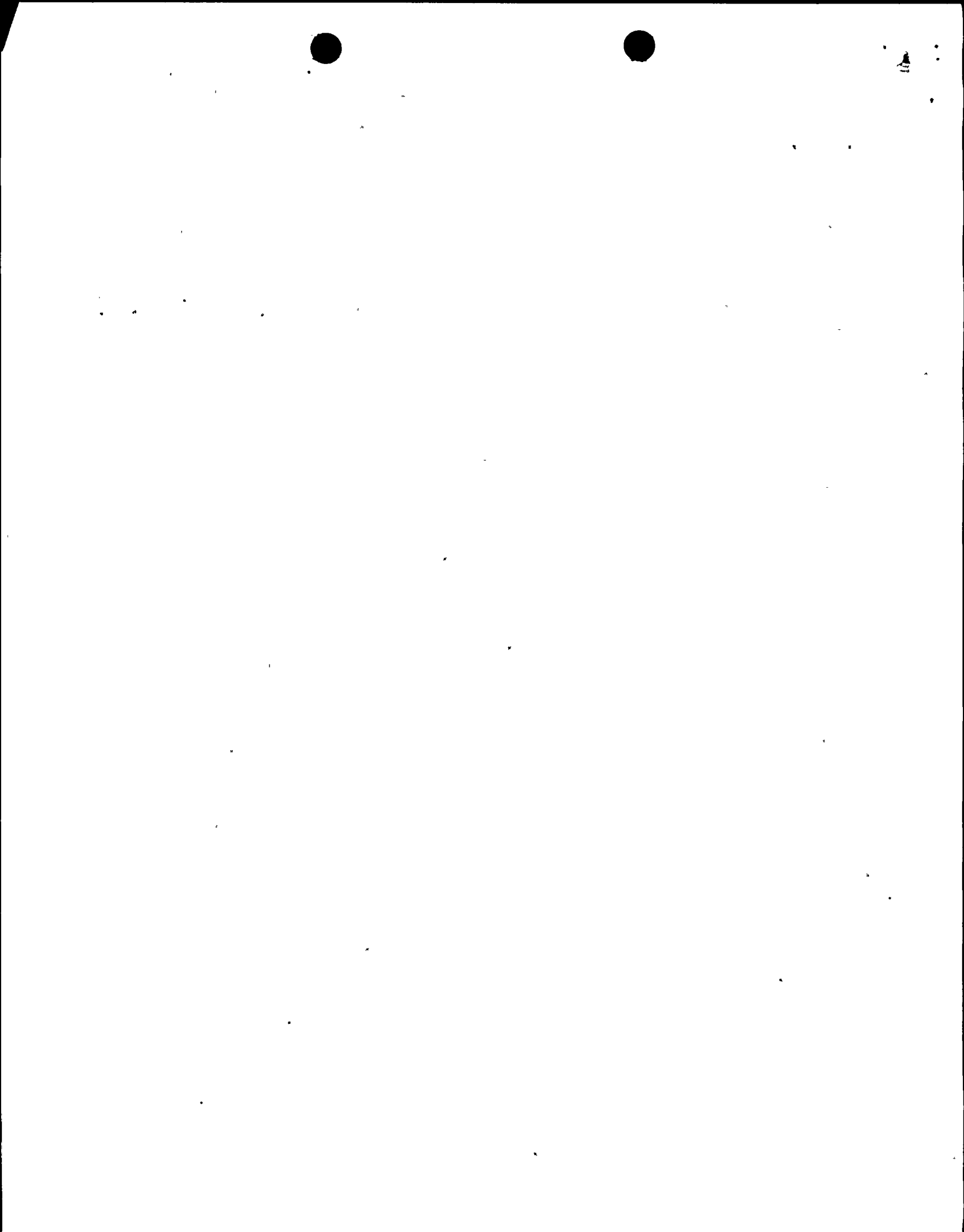
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March 31, 1999
NMP2L 1857

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

RE: Nine Mile Point Unit 2
Docket No. 50-410
NPF-69

Gentlemen:

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) hereby transmits an Application for Amendment to Nine Mile Point Unit 2 (NMP2) Technical Specifications (TS), as set forth in Appendix A to the NMP2 Operating License NPF-69. Enclosed as Attachment A are the proposed changes to the TS. Supporting information and analyses which demonstrate that the proposed changes involve no significant hazards consideration pursuant to 10CFR50.92 are included as Attachment B. The basis for concluding that this application meets the criteria of 10CFR51.22 for categorical exclusion from performing an environmental assessment is included as Attachment C. A hand marked-up copy of the affected TS page is provided as Attachment D to assist in your review.

The proposed changes revise Table 3.6.1.2-1 of the NMP2 TS, titled, "Allowable Leak Rates through Valves in Potential Bypass Leakage Paths." This table lists isolation valves in lines that are potential bypass leakage paths from the primary containment to the environment and specifies the allowable bypass leak rates for these valves to maintain primary containment integrity. The proposed changes will revise Table 3.6.1.2-1 by adding two relief valves, along with associated leak rate criteria. These relief valves will be installed on the drywell equipment and drywell floor drain lines (one relief valve on each drain line) between the inboard primary containment isolation valve and the primary containment wall. The relief valves will be installed during NMP2's Refueling Outage Number 7 (RFO7), which is expected to begin in the Spring of 2000.

The above described modifications are in response to NRC Generic Letter (GL) 96-06, titled, "Assurance of Equipment Operability and Containment Integrity During Design-Basis Accident Conditions." NMPC committed to implement these modifications in RFO7 in its letter to the NRC dated January 20, 1999 (NMP2L 1848). The relief valves are intended to protect the drain line penetrations against overpressure under postulated post-accident conditions when containment temperatures may heat and expand the fluid entrapped between the closed inboard and outboard isolation valves. Consistent with the guidance in GL 96-06, the effects of stuck-open relief valves and associated environmental flooding and radiation hazards have been considered in the new design.

The allowable leak rates specified in TS Table 3.6.1.2-1 for the drywell equipment and drywell floor drain line penetrations will remain unchanged as the result of these modifications. Consequently, the radiological consequences of adding the relief valves will

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remain within NMP2's current licensing basis. NMPC requests that the NRC approve these proposed changes by November 30, 1999, so that the planned modifications may be implemented during RFO7. NMPC also requests the flexibility to implement this amendment prior to plant startup from RFO7, versus the normal 30-day implementation requirement.

Pursuant to 10CFR50.91(b)(1), NMPC has provided a copy of this amendment request and the associated analysis regarding no significant hazards determination to the appropriate state representative.

Very truly yours,


John T. Conway
Vice President Nuclear Generation

JTC/IAA/kap
Attachments

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