

# CATEGORY 1

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ACCESSION NBR: 9906290327    DOC. DATE: 99/06/25    NOTARIZED: NO    DOCKET #  
 FACIL: 50-410 Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Niagara Moha    05000410  
 AUTH. NAME                      AUTHOR AFFILIATION  
 EVANS, M.                        Region 1 (Post 820201)  
 COOK, W.                         Region 1 (Post 820201)  
 RECIP. NAME                     RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

SUBJECT: PNO-I-99-029: on 990624, Unit 2 had automatic reactor shutdown  
 occurred. CR operators manually started reactor core  
 isolation cooling sys to restore & maintain reactor vessel  
 level. Reactor vessel level was being maintained.

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June 25, 1999

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-99-029

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.

Facility

Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.  
Nine Mile Point 2  
Lycoming, New York  
Dockets: 50-410

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event  
Alert  
Site Area Emergency  
General Emergency  
X Not Applicable

Subject: AUTOMATIC REACTOR SHUTDOWN AND PARTIAL LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER  
- MEDIA INTEREST

At 3:41 p.m. on June 24, 1999, Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. (NMPC) Unit 2 had an automatic reactor shutdown occur on low reactor vessel level. While plant operators were preparing to work on a feedwater control system transmitter, an apparent controller failure caused both feedwater control valves to close. The rapid reduction in feedwater flow, while operating at 100 percent power, caused the low reactor vessel level scram. All control rods inserted properly. However, one of two off-site power sources (Line #5) failed to transfer following the scram, resulting in the de-energization of the condensate and feedwater pumps. Control room operators manually started the reactor core isolation cooling system to restore and maintain reactor vessel level.

As of 8:00 a.m. this morning, the Unit 2 staff had restored offsite power Line #5 after identifying and replacing a failed generator electrical output control circuit relay. Reactor vessel level was being maintained with the condensate system and the licensee was taking the unit to the Cold Shutdown condition. The cause of the feedwater control system failure was still under investigation.

NMPC activities have been monitored by the NRC resident staff, as well as regional and headquarters staff.

NMPC issued a news release yesterday evening. The State of New York has been informed. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

Contact: EVANS, MICHELE  
(610)337-5224

COOK, WILLIAM  
(610)337-5074

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PDR I&E  
PNO-I-99-029 PDR

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