



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 16, 1993

Docket No. 50-220

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1 RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 92-08, "THERMO-LAG 330-1 FIRE BARRIERS," (TAC NO. M85574)

By letter dated April 13, 1993, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) provided a response to Generic Letter (GL) 92-08 for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit No. 1 (NMP-1). Although the response stated that the Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barriers installed at NMP-1 were not qualified by conducting individual specific fire endurance tests for the exact installed configurations, NMPC's response stated that the barriers were qualified to requirements and industry practice applicable at the time of installation. The response stated that the governing criteria for the installation of these barriers were Thermal Science Incorporated (TSI) Technical note 20684 (Thermo-Lag 330 Fire Barrier System, Installation Procedures Manual, Power Generating Plant Applications), Revision V, November 1985 and TSI Form 1082 (500).

NMPC's response further stated that deviations from the tested configurations have not been evaluated but that NMPC has documented acceptance by Pro-Tech Applications Services, Inc. (an approved Thermal Science, Inc. installer) or Thermal Science, Inc. that each installation meets the requirements for a 3-hour fire barrier. However, the response did not specify the acceptance criteria or describe the test methods used for establishing these 3-hour ratings. Please provide information regarding the acceptance criteria and test methods used for establishing these 3-hour ratings in NMPC's response to this request for additional information (RAI).

Although Thermo-Lag barriers were evaluated and may have been considered qualified, the results of recent tests and inspections indicate that further actions are now necessary to address fire endurance and ampacity derating of Thermo-Lag barriers. NMPC's response states that appropriate actions to resolve these concerns are being developed through an industry program coordinated by NUMARC and NMPC would apply the results of the industry program, when completed, to the Thermo-Lag 330-1 installations at NMP-1.

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Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia

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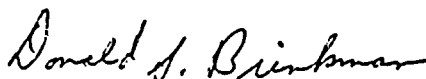
Compensatory measures for inoperable barriers are in place and will remain in place until the fire barriers can be declared operable.

NMPC's April 13, 1993, response stated that cables 171-71 and 171-151 have been derated 68.7% and 57.9%, respectively. In NMPC's response to this RAI, please provide all test reports that document the ampacity derating characteristics of the fire barrier installed and state (1) that cables identified in the April 13, 1993, response are the only cables to which ampacity derating considerations apply, (2) what industry standards were used in the determination of ampacity rating, and (3) what ampacity derating margin exclusive of typical derating factors (i.e., ambient temperature, cable fill) is available for Thermo-Lag 330-1 related ampacity derating factors.

In NMPC's response to GL 92-08, NMPC indicated that the actions necessary to restore (or confirm) the operability of these barriers will be based on the results of the NUMARC program. The NRC staff expects that licensees referencing the NUMARC program will review the results and, within 30 days after the completion of the program, inform the NRC of the actions necessary and the schedule for restoring the operability of these fire barriers including plant specific or unique fire barrier configurations that are not bound by the NUMARC program. In accordance with the reporting requirements of GL 92-08, NMPC is also to confirm, in writing, completion of the corrective actions.

The information requested by this letter is within the scope of the overall burden estimate in GL 92-08, which was an average of 300 person-hours for each addressee's response. This request is covered by Office of Management and Budget Clearance Number 3150-0011, which expires June 30, 1994.

Sincerely,



Donald S. Brinkman, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page



Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

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Original signed by:
Donald S. Brinkman, Senior Project Manager
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Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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