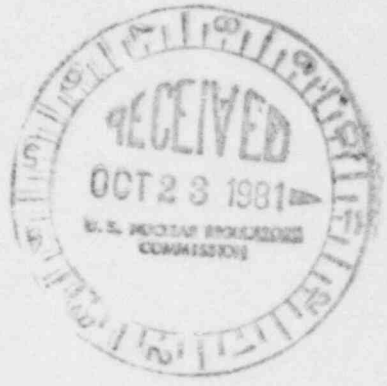
NIAGARA MOHAWK

50.55(e)

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION/300 ERIE BOULEVARD WEST, SYRACUSE, N.Y. 13202/TELEPHONE (315) 474-1511



October 14, 1981

Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
Attention: Mr. Eldon J. Brunner, Acting Director
Division of Resident and Project Inspection
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Re: Nine Mile Point Unit 2
Docket No. 50-410

Dear Mr. Brunner:

Enclosed is the final report in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e) for the deficiency regarding aggregate testing. This condition was originally reported to Mr. R. Feil of your staff on September 11, 1981 as a potentially reportable deficiency. This condition has subsequently been determined to be not reportable, since it would not affect the safety of the plant.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

James Bartlett

James Bartlett
Executive Vice President

PEF:ja
Enclosure

IE27
S.1/1

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION
NINE MILE POINT UNIT 2
DOCKET NO. 50-410

FINAL REPORT FOR 50.55(e) POTENTIAL
DEFICIENCY REGARDING AGGREGATE TESTING

Description of the Deficiency

Project Specification, "Mixing and Delivering Concrete," required that each pit or quarry to be used to supply concrete aggregate be sampled, tested, and approved by the Engineers, prior to use.

Initially, samples of aggregate for source qualification testing were obtained from stockpiles at the Supplier's process plant and, based on the results of laboratory tests, the process plant was approved as a source of coarse and fine aggregate. The Engineers were notified by the aggregate supplier that the aggregates for Unit 2 concrete were being blended from three pits out of a total of six pits in the local area to obtain quantities and gradation of aggregates in conformance with the project specifications. However, the names of the individual pits were not provided.

Later, the aggregate supplier started using a new pit, called the Whelsky pit, for obtaining aggregate for blending into the stockpile, without obtaining the Engineer's approval and without initial qualification tests for that pit.

Analysis of Safety Implications

1. A geologic investigation of pits in the area has indicated that they are all geologically similar in nature and origin, and are derived from the same glacial drift deposits. The three pits initially used and the fourth pit added later are all in this local area.

2. Samples of fine and coarse aggregates from each pit used by the supplier have been subsequently tested and found to be in conformance with the ASTM standards requirements.

3. All in-process test results indicate that:

   a. Aggregate characteristics to date remained generally the same as when initial qualification tests were performed on samples from the blended stockpile.

   b. The aggregates were found to be in conformance with the specification requirements.

4. Any aggregate used for blending in the stockpile which hypothetically could have failed qualification tests would have been found to be deficient during in-process testing.

5. In addition, if in-process testing did not detect deficiencies in the aggregate, the consequences would have been insignificant, because the Project uses high cement-factor concrete with low-alkali cement and the proper amount of air-entraining agent.

'n view of the above, the practice of obtaining aggregate samples for source qualification testing from the supplier's stockpiles rather than from the pits would not have had any adverse effect on the safety of operation of the plant throughout its expected lifetime.

Corrective Action

1. The aggregate supplier has:

   a. Identified the specific pits in this geologic area which were used to obtain aggregate for blending into the source stockpile.

   b. Implemented measures to document and control aggregate production at his process plant to assure that no aggregate will be shipped to the project site from a pit which has not been approved by the Engineers prior to use.

2. The Project specification has been revised to clarify the term "source" and to add the requirement of approval by the Engineers before any new pit is used as a source of concrete aggregate.

3. Samples of fine and coarse aggregates from each pit used by the supplier have been tested, including petrographic examination to provide documentation as required by the Project specifications. All test results are satisfactory and are available for review at the Unit 2 construction site.