

March 30, 1995

DCS

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia  
Executive Vice President - Nuclear  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
P. O. Box 63  
Lycoming, NY 13093

**SUBJECT: NRC SPECIAL INSPECTION TEAM REPORT NOS. 50-220/95-80 AND 50-410/95-80**

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

This letter transmits the results of an NRC special team inspection, led by Mr. John T. Shedlosky of this office, on February 3 through February 9, 1995, at Nine Mile Point Unit 1, Scriba, New York. The team assessed the circumstances surrounding a recirculation pump runback and turbine trip that occurred on February 1, 1995. The team directed their activities in two distinct areas, the reactor thermal hydraulic performance following the event and the human performance issues leading up to this and other events. The team members discussed their findings with yourself and with members of your staff at a meeting on February 9, 1995. Overall, the team concluded that operator response to the event was good and that station management's response to the event was appropriate.

The team found that the recirculation pump runback event was caused by a failure to follow procedures. In addition, the team concluded that your corrective actions, taken in response to past events caused by poor human performance, have not been fully effective. Specifically, the team determined that your expectations for work control and its quality were not being met at all levels of your organization.

The team determined that additional investigations are required by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation for you to fully understand and to resolve with the NRC staff, the reasons for reactor core flow indicating less than the expected natural circulation flow following the recirculation pump runback. The specific questions in this area were transmitted to you in my March 17, 1995 letter to you. We have your March 22, 1995 response to those questions and are currently evaluating them.

It is our understanding that you and your staff agreed with the team findings and that you will take those steps that are necessary to ensure your performance expectations are understood and implemented to all levels of your organization.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia

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Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Richard W. Cooper, II, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.        50-220  
                      50-410

Enclosure: NRC Combined Inspection Report Nos. 50-220/95-80 and 50-410/95-80

cc w/encl:

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C. Terry, Vice President, Nuclear Engineering  
M. McCormick, Vice President, Safety Assessment & Support  
R. Abbott, Unit 1 Plant Manager  
K. Dahlberg, Unit 2 Plant Manager  
D. Wolniak, Manager, Licensing (Acting)  
J. Warden, New York Consumer Protection Branch  
G. Wilson, Senior Attorney  
M. Wetterhahn, Winston and Strawn  
Director, Energy & Water Division, Department of Public Service, State of  
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C. Donaldson, Esquire, Assistant Attorney General, New York Department of Law  
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