

DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE MONTHLY REPORT, MAY 1970

50-220

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (Nine Mile Point) - CO inspections were conducted on April 28-30 at GE-Vallecitos and May 14-15 at the site to follow the investigations by the licensee of furnace sensitized stainless steel components. Metallographic examination of the second core spray safe end section revealed shallow cracks (≤ 10 mils deep), both intergranular and transgranular, on both the exterior and interior surfaces of the safe end. Examination of a one-inch section of core spray pipe, removed with the safe end, showed the pipe to be in a sensitized condition and revealed three axial intergranular cracks up to 90 mils deep. NMPC and GE have not taken a position with regard to the detected cracks.

The second core spray safe end has been replaced with an unsensitized 304 L stainless steel safe end. The licensee has cut out one of the emergency condenser steam supply nozzle safe ends for examination. This nozzle had been PT tested earlier on the interior surface with no defects reported. The removed safe end has been sent to GE-Vallecitos for metallurgical examination. NMPC also plans to replace this safe end with an unsensitized 304 L stainless steel safe end. Work is under way to remove all indications of intergranular attack on the external surfaces of the remaining furnace sensitized stainless steel safe ends in preparation for returning the reactor to operation. The licensee's schedule for reactor restart is June 20.

The main steam isolation valves were leak tested at 22 psig in response to a written request from DRL. One of the four valves leaked in excess of Technical Specifications limits--120 cubic feet per hour versus a maximum limit of 13.8 cubic feet per hour. Investigation showed the meshing gear on the valve stem and the hand operated gear were scored. The damaged components were replaced and a retest of the valve showed the leakage rate met Technical Specifications requirements.

X-Inspection