UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
REGION 1
970 BROAD STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

RO Inquiry Report No. 50-220/73-01Q

Licensee: Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

License No.: DPR-17

Facility: Nine Mile Point 1 - BWR
Scriba, New York

Title: Procedure Conflict with Technical Specification Requirements

Prepared by: _____ 4/5/73
F. S. Cantrell, Jr., Reactor Inspector Date

A. Date and Manner AEC was Informed:

During a review of the Control Rod Drive System Procedure (No. 5) on April 4, 1973.

B. Description of Particular Event or Circumstance:

The operating procedure for the control rod drive system was reviewed as a result of being informed that one control rod drive was valved out and inoperable. Paragraph 3.1.1.a of the Technical Specifications states, "Control rods which can not be moved with control rod drive pressure shall be considered inoperable. Inoperable control rods shall be valved out of service....In no case shall the number of non-fully inserted rods valved out of service be greater than six during power operation. If this specification is not met, the reactor shall be placed in a cold shutdown condition." Step F.7 of Procedure No. 5, Control Rod Drive System, states, "If the ability to drive all rods has been lost, such as loss of the complete hydraulic system for a period of one hour, the reactor should be scrammed." The above procedure requirement could be interpreted to authorize continued operation for periods up to one hour with all control rod drives inoperable.

C. Action by Licensee:

A licensee representative was contacted concerning the discrepancy between the procedural statement and the Technical Specification requirement. After a discussion of the background for the procedural

statement and the requirements of the Technical Specifications which limit the number of inoperable control rods to six, the licensee representative implemented a temporary change to the control rod drive system procedure to require initiating a reactor scram immediately if more than six control rods are determined to be inoperable as required by the Technical Specifications. This requirement will either be permanently incorporated in the control rod drive system procedure or a Technical Specification change will be submitted to Licensing with the necessary justification to support the Technical Specification change request.