



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE
REGION I
970 BROAD STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

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APR 21 1972

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Attention: Mr. F. J. Schneider
Vice President - Operations
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Docket No. 50-220

Gentlemen:

Further information is now available to supplement the TTX sent to you by this office on December 9, 1971, which informed you of the failure of the relief valves on the secondary side of a steam generator of a pressurized water reactor. The cause of this failure has now been determined to be the failure to consider the reaction forces of discharging relief valves in the design of the nozzles attaching the valves to the header.

As a result of this occurrence, several licensees have conducted dynamic stress analyses of their safety and relief valve installations. In several cases, the analyses have indicated that the stresses under certain conditions would be above those allowed by code.

In view of the significance and extent of this situation, you may wish to re-evaluate the stress analyses for all safety and relief valve installations important to nuclear safety at your facility. Any re-evaluation should focus special attention on mechanical restraints and the assumptions used in the analyses for safety and relief valve installations within the primary and secondary systems.

Our assigned inspector will discuss your re-evaluations with you during the next inspection of your facility.

If you have any questions on this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Very truly yours,

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James P. O'Reilly
Director

cc: Mr. P. A. Eurt, Station Superintendent
bcc: ☒ Files
DR Central Files
PDR

signing