



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 22, 1998

50-410

Mr. John H. Mueller
Chief Nuclear Officer
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Operations Building, Second Floor
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING PROPOSED
CHANGES IN METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING INSTRUMENTATION
REQUIREMENTS - NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 2
(TAC NO. M98694)

Dear Mr. Mueller:

By letter dated April 30, 1997, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) proposed a license amendment for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 2 that would relocate meteorological monitoring instrumentation requirements in the Technical Specifications (TSs) to the Updated Safety Analysis Report (USAR). The NRC staff is reviewing your submittal and finds that additional information is needed.

- 1.0 The proposed changes would eliminate (not relocate) the current requirement in TS 3.3.7.3 that a special report be submitted to the NRC pursuant to TS 6.9.2 when one or more meteorological monitoring instrumentation channels is inoperable for more than 7 days. You propose to eliminate this requirement on the basis that "Niagara Mohawk will continue to evaluate future meteorological instrumentation inoperability for reportability in accordance with the reporting requirements of 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73." 1/0
- 1.1 Identify the specific provisions of 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73 that would apply if one or more meteorological monitoring instrumentation channels should be inoperable for more than 7 days. DFO1
- 1.2 State your understanding as to how and when (or if) the NRC would be notified of this condition (one or more meteorological monitoring instrumentation channels inoperable for more than 7 days) if TS 3.3.7.3a is deleted as proposed.
- 1.3 State whether reporting pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73 would outline "the cause of the malfunction and the plans for restoring the instrumentation to OPERABLE status."
- 1.4 Justify any significant reporting differences between the existing TS requirement and the reporting pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73.

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- 2.0 It is NRC staff policy to ensure that licensee commitments relied upon by the staff regarding the transfer of specific information from the TSs to a licensee-controlled document subject to 10 CFR 50.59 is reflected as a condition of the operating license if such transfer will not be accomplished before issuance of the associated license amendment. The NRC staff is concerned about the intervening time between issuance of the amendment and inclusion of the information in the 10 CFR 50.59-controlled document. This time should be minimized and the deleted information subject to appropriate interim controls.
- 2.1 State whether the transfer of the information to the USAR will be accomplished in advance of the periodic FSAR update pursuant to 10 CFR 50.71 and, if so, describe the procedures and process by which this is accomplished.
- 2.2 If transfer of the proposed information to the USAR will be accomplished after issuance of the license amendment, would a safety evaluation pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59 be performed in the event of a change in meteorological instrumentation involving degraded or inoperable conditions before the information is included in the USAR? If not, what change-control procedure/process would be followed regarding a change in the service condition of the meteorological monitoring instrumentation before the USAR is updated?
- 2.3 If transfer of the proposed information to the USAR will be accomplished after issuance of the license amendment, supplement your application to include a proposed license condition reflecting your commitment to transfer the information to the USAR by a specified date (or interval of time after issuance of the license amendment) and any interim controls that are to apply until the transfer is completed.

The above requests were discussed with Ms. D. Wolniak and other members of your organization during a telephone conversation on September 8, 1998. Ms. Wolniak stated that the response to this request would be submitted within 45 days of its receipt. Accordingly, your response to this letter is expected by October 26, 1998.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or if you are unable to meet the committed response date, please contact me by phone on (301) 415-3049 or by electronic mail at dsh@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,
 Darl S. Hood, Senior Project Manager
 Project Directorate 1-1
 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Docket No. 50-410
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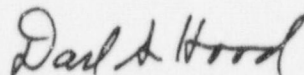
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Darl S. Hood, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate 1-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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John H. Mueller
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Unit No. 2

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