

04 FEB 1987

Docket No. 50-410  
License No. NPF-54  
EA 87-09

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. C. V. Mangan  
Senior Vice President  
301 Plainfield Road  
Syracuse, New York 13212

Gentlemen:

Subject: NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
(Inspection No. 50-410/86-56)

This refers to the NRC resident safety inspection conducted between October 1 and November 16, 1986, at Nine Mile Point, Unit 2, Scriba, New York. The inspection report was sent to you on December 17, 1986. During the inspection, NRC inspectors reviewed the circumstances associated with two violations of technical specification limiting conditions for operation (LCO) which were identified by members of your staff and reported to the NRC. Further, a violation of the reporting requirements set forth in 10 CFR 50.72 was also identified. On January 8, 1987, an enforcement conference was conducted with you and members of your staff to discuss the violations, their causes, and your corrective actions.

The two LCO violations occurred during the initial loading of fuel in the reactor. The first violation involved a Source Range Monitor being inoperable for approximately 5 hours during which time 19 fuel bundles were loaded into the reactor. The violation was caused by a failure to follow procedures and a lack of independent verification to assure that the SRM was returned to an operable status upon completion of a surveillance test. The second violation involved all four SRM downscale rod block channels being inoperable for a period of approximately 2½ hours while the reactor was in the refueling mode (there was no fuel movement during that time). The violation was caused by an apparent lack of thorough understanding and implementation of technical specification requirements. The violations demonstrate the need for additional training and improved oversight of the operations staff to assure that the plant is operated in accordance with the technical specifications. Therefore, although the two LCO violations are of low safety significance and have been classified at Severity Level IV in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedures for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (Enforcement Policy) (1986), we emphasize that any similar violations in the future may result in additional enforcement action. The reporting violation has been classified at Severity Level V.

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You are required to respond to the enclosed Notice and, in preparing your response, you should follow the instructions specified in the Notice. In your response, you should document the actions taken or planned to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to the Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

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

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget, otherwise required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Sincerely,

William F. Kane, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure:  
Notice of Violation

cc w/encl:  
Connor & Wetterhahn  
John W. Keib, Esquire  
J. A. Perry, Vice President, Quality Assurance  
W. Hansen, Manager of Quality Assurance  
D. Quamme, NMP-2 Project Director  
C. Beckham, NMPC QA Manager  
T. J. Perkins, General Superintendent  
R. B. Abbott, Station Superintendent  
Department of Public Service, State of New York  
Public Document Room (PDR)  
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
NRC Resident Inspector  
State of New York

bcc w/encl:  
Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)  
Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encl)  
DRP Section Chief  
Region I SLO  
Robert J. Bores, DRSS  
D. Holody

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