

August 23, 2002

Mr. John T. Conway
Site Vice President
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, LLC
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN -
NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr. Conway:

On August 6, 2002, the NRC staff completed its mid-cycle plant performance assessment of Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station. In accordance with NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0305 "Operating Reactor Assessment Program," the mid-cycle review involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating the performance of the Nine Mile Point facility for the first half of the current assessment cycle, January 1 - December 31, 2002. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities.

Nine Mile Point Unit 1 plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on one performance indicator (PI) which crossed the threshold from Green to White (increased regulatory response band) in the mitigating systems cornerstone. The mitigating systems PI for "Safety System Unavailability, High Pressure Injection System," has exceeded the White threshold since the first quarter of 2001.

Nine Mile Point Unit 2 was within the Licensee Response Column of the Action Matrix based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Our Annual Assessment Letter, dated March 4, 2002, noted that at Unit 2, the initiating events PI for "Unplanned Scrams," had changed to White. However, that PI returned to Green as of the second quarter of 2002.

To address the Unit 1 and Unit 2 PIs, discussed above, we scheduled supplemental inspection procedure 95001 to be conducted in May 2002, in accordance with the NRC Manual Chapter 0305, Action Matrix. The inspection was rescheduled to allow your staff more time to complete necessary reviews, and was conducted during the period August 19 - 23, 2002. This inspection procedure was conducted to provide assurance that the root and contributing causes of risk-significant performance issues were understood, the extent of condition was identified, and the corrective actions were sufficient to prevent recurrence. Results of this inspection will be provided by separate correspondence.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through September 30, 2003. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff, and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival on site. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The last six months of the inspection plan is tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In addition, the NRC is in the process of finalizing a Temporary Instruction (TI) that will be used to review implementation of the Interim Compensatory Measures required by the Agency's Security Order to all commercial nuclear power plants dated February 25, 2002. Schedules have not yet been finalized, but it is anticipated that these inspections will begin within the next calendar quarter. Once finalized, the details will be communicated by separate correspondence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Michele G. Evans, Chief, Reactor Projects Branch 1, at 610-337-5224 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

A. Randolph Blough, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-220, 50-410
Licensee Nos. DPR-63, NPF-69

Enclosure: Nine Mile Point Inspection/ Activity Plan

cc w/encl: M. J. Wallace, President, Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, LLC
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W. M. Flynn, President, New York State Energy Research
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NAME	NPerry/NP		MEvans/MGE		ABlough/AB	
DATE	08/21/02		08/21/02		08/22/02	

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Nine Mile Point
Inspection / Activity Plan
06/30/2002 - 09/30/2003

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	7/29 EXM	- U2 OPERATOR LICENSING INITIAL EXAMS	4			
2	U01443	NINE MILE 2 O/L INITIAL EXAM 7/22-8/2/2002		07/08/2002	07/12/2002	Not Applicable
2	U01443	NINE MILE 2 O/L INITIAL EXAM 7/22-8/2/2002		07/29/2002	08/02/2002	Not Applicable
	7111121	- SSDI	7			
1, 2	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		07/15/2002	07/19/2002	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		07/29/2002	08/02/2002	Baseline Inspections
	71114	- EP PROGRAM REVIEW & PI VERIFICATION	1			
1, 2	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		07/29/2002	08/02/2002	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		07/29/2002	08/02/2002	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		07/29/2002	08/02/2002	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		07/29/2002	08/02/2002	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		07/29/2002	08/02/2002	Baseline Inspections
	95001	- NMP SUPPLEMENTAL FOR WHITE PI'S	3			
1, 2	IP 95001	Supplemental Inspection For One Or Two White Inputs In A Strategic Performance Area		08/19/2002	08/23/2002	Supplemental Program
	9/30+EXM	- U1 OPERATOR LICENSING INITIAL EXAMS	3			
1	U01449	NINE MILE POINT 1 O/L INITIAL EXAM 9/30-10/14/2002		09/02/2002	09/06/2002	Not Applicable
1	U01449	NINE MILE POINT 1 O/L INITIAL EXAM 9/30-10/14/2002		09/30/2002	10/04/2002	Not Applicable
1	U01449	NINE MILE POINT 1 O/L INITIAL EXAM 9/30-10/14/2002		09/30/2002	10/11/2002	Not Applicable
	71121	- OCC RAD SAFETY	1			
1, 2	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		10/21/2002	10/25/2002	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		10/21/2002	10/25/2002	Baseline Inspections
	7111111B	- L.O.REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM	2			
1, 2	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification		10/28/2002	11/01/2002	Baseline Inspections
	7111107B	- HEAT SINK	1			
1, 2	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		11/04/2002	11/08/2002	Baseline Inspections
	71130	- SECURITY	1			
1, 2	IP 7113001	Access Authorization Program (Behavior Observation Only)		01/27/2003	01/31/2003	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 7113002	Access Control (Search of Personnel, Packages, and Vehicles: Identification and Authorizator		01/27/2003	01/31/2003	Baseline Inspections
	71121	- OCC RAD SAFETY	1			
1, 2	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		03/17/2003	03/21/2003	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		03/17/2003	03/21/2003	Baseline Inspections
	7111108	- INSERVICE INSPECTION	1			
1	IP 7111108	Inservice Inspection Activities		03/31/2003	04/04/2003	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Nine Mile Point
Inspection / Activity Plan
06/30/2002 - 09/30/2003

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	71122.02 - RETS - UNIT 1		1			
1	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		04/07/2003	04/11/2003	Baseline Inspections
	71122.03 - RETS - UNIT 2		1			
2	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		04/21/2003	04/25/2003	Baseline Inspections
	71130.03 - SECURITY		2			
1, 2	IP 7113003	Response to Contingency Events (Protective Strategy and Implementation of Protective Strategie		04/21/2003	04/25/2003	Baseline Inspections
	7111401 - EXERCISE EVALUATION AND PI VERIFICATION		1			
1, 2	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation		06/25/2003	06/27/2003	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		06/25/2003	06/27/2003	Baseline Inspections
	71121.03 - OCC RAD SAFETY - INSTRUMENTATION		1			
1, 2	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		06/23/2003	06/27/2003	Baseline Inspections
	71122.02 - RADWASTE		1			
1, 2	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		07/21/2003	07/25/2003	Baseline Inspections
	71122.03 - REMP		1			
1, 2	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program		08/11/2003	08/15/2003	Baseline Inspections
	711117B - PERMANENT PLANT MODS		5			
1, 2	IP 7111102	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments		08/11/2003	08/15/2003	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 711117B	Permanent Plant Modifications		08/11/2003	08/15/2003	Baseline Inspections
	71121.01 - OCC RAD SAFETY - ACCESS		1			
1, 2	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		09/08/2003	09/12/2003	Baseline Inspections

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