

August 18, 2000

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS RELATED TO PERFORMANCE OF THE
BIENNIAL OFFSITE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISES AT THE
NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. Mueller:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is engaged in a document search related to the conduct of emergency plan exercises at the Indian Point and FitzPatrick/Nine Mile Point sites. The practice at these sites is for the co-located licensees to alternate their participation in the biennial exercises of the offsite plans that are evaluated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This apparently has been the practice at these two sites since the early 1980's.

The issue has come to our attention as a result of the February 15, 2000, steam generator tube failure at Indian Point Unit 2 (IP2) and the subsequent activities related to the restart of IP2. We are conducting a search of our records for any documentation related to the initiation of the practice of alternating licensee participation in offsite exercises at these sites. In particular, we are seeking correspondence between the licensees, the State of New York, FEMA, and the NRC that is related to this practice and indicates consideration and approval by the NRC and/or FEMA.

To assist us in this matter, we request that the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation perform a search of its records for any documentation related to recognition, acceptance, or approval of the practice of alternating licensee participation in the FEMA evaluated biennial (originally annual) offsite exercises at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station site. Please contact Peter Tam at 301-415-1451 if you have any questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Zwolinski, Director
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-220 and 50-410

cc: See next page

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