



January 4, 2001  
NMP1L 1564

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

RE: Nine Mile Point Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-220  
DPR-63

***Subject: Special Report***

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Action Statement 4a. of Nine Mile Point Unit 1 Technical Specification Table 3.6.11-2, "Accident Monitoring Instrumentation Action Statements," Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation is submitting the following Special Report concerning the inoperability of Channel #11 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System.

**Description of Event**

On December 20, 2000, an operator identified condensation inside a flow indicator for the #12 Drywell Containment Atmosphere Monitoring System. The operator suspected that the condensation was from a potential leak in the #12 Drywell Containment Atmosphere Monitoring System. In order to remove the #12 Drywell Containment Atmosphere Monitoring System from service, the Channel #11 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System also had to be isolated. The two systems were unisolated and returned to service on December 21, 2000.

Further investigation determined that condensation on the inside of the #12 Drywell Containment Atmosphere Monitoring System flow indicator is expected. There is direct communication between the process air and the faceplate of the flow indicator. The process lines are heat traced to prevent excessive condensation build up. However, the faceplate is a large, thin device susceptible to rapid heat loss, causing condensation on the faceplate.

The redundant Channel #12 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was operable while Channel #11 was isolated.

IE22

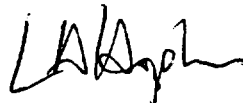
**Cause of Event**

Channel #11 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was isolated due to a potential leak in the #12 Drywell Containment Atmosphere Monitoring System. The #12 Drywell Containment Atmosphere Monitoring System was later determined to be operating properly and was not leaking.

**Corrective Actions**

1. Channel #11 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring System was unisolated and returned to service on December 21, 2000.
2. A night order was issued to communicate to the operators that condensation on the flow indicator in the #12 Drywell Containment Atmosphere Monitoring System is an expected condition.

Very truly yours,



Lawrence A. Hopkins  
Plant Manager - Nine Mile Point Unit 1

LAH/CES/mlg

xc: Mr. H. J. Miller, Regional Administrator, Region I  
Mr. G. K. Hunegs, NRC Senior Resident Inspector  
Records Management