



Richard B. Abbott
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March 22, 2001
NMP2L 2014

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

RE: Nine Mile Point Unit 2
Docket No. 50-410
NPF-69

Subject: *Nine Mile Point Unit 2 Power Uprate Power Ascension Test Program Interim Startup Report (TAC No. M87088)*

Gentlemen:

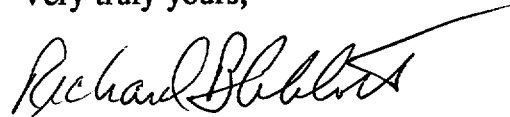
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) is providing this letter in regard to the Nine Mile Point Unit 2 (NMP2) "Power Uprate Power Ascension Test Program Interim Startup Report." The requirements for the Interim Startup Report are currently stated in Section 14.2.13 of the Updated Safety Analysis Report (USAR). NMPC's first Interim Startup Report was submitted in a letter dated November 28, 1995. Subsequently, NMPC has submitted numerous other interim reports, including the reports dated June 26, 2000, September 22, 2000, and December 22, 2000.

As reported previously, the power uprate power ascension test program could not be completed due to the inability to achieve 105% of rated core flow at 100% of uprated power level. NMPC continues to believe that jet pump fouling is a contributor to the inability to achieve 105% of rated core flow. NMPC has decided not to perform jet pump cleaning in refueling outage number 8, based on our determination that this will not yield significant benefits. NMPC plans to continue to monitor jet pump performance and evaluate the results to determine the need for future jet pump cleaning. These results will remain available onsite for NRC review.

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Because of NMPC's current inability to achieve 105% of rated core flow, it is not possible to provide meaningful information in the interim startup reports. Therefore, NMPC has decided not to submit additional interim reports on this issue and is revising our USAR commitment pertaining to this issue. If the NRC staff has any objections, please notify us by April 30, 2001.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard B. Abbott", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Richard B. Abbott
Vice President Nuclear Engineering

RBA/IAA/mlg

xc: Mr. H.J. Miller, NRC Regional Administrator, Region I
Ms. M.K. Gamberoni, Section Chief PD-I, Section 1, NRR
Mr. G.K. Hunegs, NRC Senior Resident Inspector
Mr. P.S. Tam, Senior Project Manager, NRR
Records Management