

4/6/72

Docket No. 50-220

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. Gerald K. Rhode  
Vice President - Engineering  
300 Erie Boulevard West  
Syracuse, New York 13202

Gentlemen:

RE: Nine Mile Point

Your Technical Specifications include surveillance requirements and limiting conditions for operation for engineered safety feature atmosphere cleanup systems. One of the specifications requires a radioactive methyl iodide contamination test to be performed periodically on the activated charcoal in these systems. The purpose of these tests is to verify that the charcoal has not degraded unduly due to the effects of aging, weathering, and poisoning. We contacted you and requested that you review your specifications against sample specifications which we sent you and propose changes to your specifications if appropriate. This sample specification would, in accord with our current requirements, require these tests to be performed every 720 hours.

Limited information available to us indicates that an extension of this test interval beyond 720 hours may be justifiable. We would like to obtain additional data which will allow us to evaluate adsorber performance with time to determine if the testing frequency of 720 hours can be extended. Therefore, we would like to obtain the data from the tests you and other reactor operators have performed. The following information for each laboratory radio-iodine decontamination test is needed:

1. The date the sample of charcoal was obtained, and the method under which it was obtained (e.g., canister and grain thief).
2. The time interval the charcoal had been installed in the system, and the approximate number of hours the appropriate ESF system had been in operation with the tested charcoal.
3. The laboratory that performed the radioactive test.
4. The test agent (i.e., elemental iodine or methyl iodide).

OFFICE						
SURNAME						
DATE						



5. The test conditions (e.g., temperature, relative humidity, inlet concentration and duration of test). Test results should indicate whether RDT M16-1T procedures were followed.
6. The removal efficiency obtained, and the experimental error (if known).
7. Any unusual operating conditions or other information you may consider useful.

It would be helpful if you could provide this information by June 1, 1976. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

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Karl R. Goller, Assistant Director  
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Division of Operating Reactors

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cc:

Arvin E. Upton, Esquire  
LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae  
1757 N Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

Anthony Z. Roisman, Esquire  
Roisman, Kessler and Cashdan  
1712 N Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dr. William Seymour, Staff Coordinator  
New York State Atomic Energy Council  
New York State Department of Commerce  
99 Washington Street  
Albany, New York 12207

Oswego City Library  
120 E. Second Street  
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Mr. Robert P. Jones, Supervisor  
Town of Scriba  
R. D. #4  
Oswego, New York 13126



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