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ENCLOSURES:
COMMENTS- from the Soil Conservation Service and Forest Service

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PLANT NAME: Nine Mile Point Unit 1

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION 8-28-73 GC

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Regulatory Docket File

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

50-220

August 24, 1973

DOCKETED USAEC AUG 28 1973 REGULATORY MAIL SECTION DOCKET CLERK

RECEIVED AUG 28 1973 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION Regulatory Mail Section

Mr. Daniel R. Muller
Assistant Director for
Environmental Projects
Directorate of Licensing
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Muller:

We have had the draft environmental statement for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit 1, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, reviewed in the relevant agencies of the Department of Agriculture, and comments from Soil Conservation Service and Forest Service, both agencies of the Department, are enclosed.

Sincerely,

F. H. Tschirley

FRED H. TSCHIRLEY
Acting Coordinator
Environmental Quality Activities

Enclosures

6554

Soil Conservation Service, USDA, Comments on Draft Environmental Statement prepared by AEC for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit 1 (Conversion for Operating License Stage to Full-Term Operating License)

General Comment

The major proposed action concerns conversion of a current operating license to a full-term license which, in itself, will not have any significant effect on areas of interest to SCS.

Paragraph 4.1.1 Station Site

Construction of a new radwaste building is discussed. In the third paragraph a discussion should include a statement that topsoil will be salvaged, protected and respread during the grading operation. Prompt vegetating will be undertaken to prevent erosion of soil during construction of the building.

Paragraph 5.1.2 Transmission-line Environs (a)

"Only selective application of herbicides should be permitted ..." This is not only to encourage wildlife-habitat growth but to maintain a good vegetative cover to prevent soil erosion.

Paragraph 10.3.1 Land Use

This paragraph is summarized by a statement which says the recreational potential of the area is meager. In terms of public development, this statement may be true, but in terms of private recreation, there is more than meager potential. The paragraph might be modified to reflect this.

RE: NINE MILE POINT, NUCLEAR STATION UNIT 1,
NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

FOREST SERVICE COMMENTS

We have no information to indicate that the continued operation of Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit 1 will have any further adverse effect on forest land beyond that which has already occurred as a result of construction.

We are interested in the Staff's recommendations on the use of herbicides for transmission-line maintenance, and are particularly intrigued by the last one: "No stands of potentially poisonous plants should be sprayed with herbicides." We are curious about the basis for this recommendation.