

June 1, 1979

Office of Inspection & Enforcement
Region I
Attn: Mr. R. T. Carlson, Chief
Reactor Construction & Engineering
Support Branch
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Mr. Carlson:

RE: Inspection Report No. 79-02
Docket No. 50-410

On March 20-23, 1979, an inspection was conducted by Mr. L. Narrow of your office at Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit 2. Your letter dated April 26, 1979 detailed an alleged item of non-compliance resulting from this inspection. This alleged non-compliance item is as follows.

"Stone & Webster Specification No. NMP2-P283B, Revision 3 dated November 15, 1978, for Shop Fabrication and Field Erection of Primary Containment Steel Plate Liner states that the penetrations is ASME Section III, including the Summer 1973 addenda.

ASME Section III, Summer 1973 addenda Article NB-5000, Paragraph NB-5231 states, in part: "All welded joints... shall be radiographed."

Contrary to the above, as of March 21, 1979, Stone & Webster Specification No. NMP2-P283B allowed ultrasonic examination of flued head to outer sleeve welds of piping penetrations and does not require radiographic examination of these welds."

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Response

ASME Section III, Paragraph NB-5231 referenced above applies to attachment welds which are pressure retaining for piping systems under Paragraph NB construction. The welds in question between the flued head forging and penetration sleeve do not form an integral part of the piping pressure retaining boundary. These welds are Class 1 structural attachment welds. In accordance with Paragraph NB-5260, these welds require only magnetic particle or liquid penetrant examination. This testing was completed and documented. Since these welds also provide a containment pressure boundary function, ultrasonic inspection was specified and performed. Radiography is not required.

Corrective Action To Be Taken

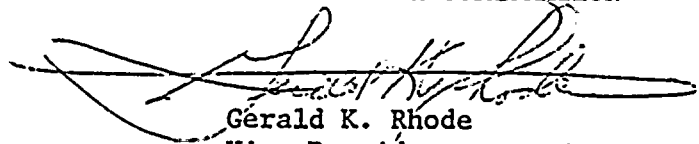
The ultrasonic examination of these welds were the subject of a Unit 2 10CFR50.55(e) notification on May 25, 1979. As a result of that matter, the welds will be re-examined. A radiographic examination will be performed where meaningful results will be received. Where the joint detail does not permit radiographic examination, ultrasonic, and liquid penetrant or magnetic particle examination will be substituted.

Date When Full Compliance Was Achieved

Full compliance has been maintained. Also, the re-examination is expected to be completed by September 1, 1979.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION


Gerald K. Rhode
Vice President
System Project Management

