

August 31, 1994
NMP1L 0857

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 Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP1) Technical Specification Table 3.6.11-1, "Accident Monitoring Instrumentation," Action Statement 4.a, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation is submitting the following Special Report concerning the inoperability of the #11 Containment Hydrogen Monitoring Unit (HMS).

Description of Event

On August 18, 1994 at 0200 hours with the reactor mode switch in the "RUN" position and the plant operating at approximately 100 percent power, the #11 HMS was discovered to have a low sample flow. Immediate attempts to adjust flow were unsuccessful and the #11 HMS was declared inoperable, whereas #12 HMS remained operable.

Cause of Event

The apparent cause of this event is a failure in the K4 relay in the Auto Calibration Unit (ACU). The relay contacts were stuck closed, causing the sample stream blocking valve (BV-201.2-167), which is upstream of the hydrogen analyzer, to be closed. The closed blocking valve resulted in low sample flow.

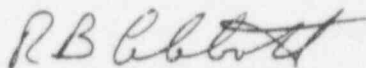
Corrective Actions

After the sticking relay was released and exercised several times, the problem did not recur. #11 HMS was found to be within calibration after initiating an auto calibration sequence at the ACU. The #11 HMS was returned to service and monitored for several hours. Since the #11 HMS performed well and did not exhibit further problems, it was declared operable on August 19, 1994 at 1140 hours.

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Subsequently, an investigation was conducted in order to identify any adverse trends with the subject relay. A review of the maintenance history indicates that a similar failure of this relay was one of several contributing factors to an outage of the #11 HMS during January-February 1994. Niagara Mohawk intends to replace the relay once a qualified replacement is obtained.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. B. Abbott", with a stylized flourish at the end.

R. B. Abbott
Plant Manager - NMP1

RBA/NSB/lmc

xc: Mr. Thomas T. Martin, Regional Administrator, Region I
Mr. Barry S. Norris, Senior Resident Inspector