



NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION / 300 ERIE BOULEVARD WEST, SYRACUSE, N.Y. 13202 / TELEPHONE (315) 474-1511

April 24, 1984

Dr. Thomas E. Murley
Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Re: Docket No. 50-220
LER 83-44

Dear Dr. Murley:

Our December 13, 1983 letter submitted Licensee Event Report 83-44. That Licensee Event Report dealt with the discovery of a Reactor Building fire barrier penetration that was improperly sealed. The discovery was made during a periodic surveillance of fire barrier penetrations as required by the plant Technical Specifications. A fire watch was established within one hour of discovery in compliance with Technical Specification 3.6.10.b. The penetration was repaired within four hours.

Licensee Event Report 83-44 stated that an inspection of fire barrier penetrations was to be performed. Upon completion of the inspection, a special report would be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Provided in Attachment 1 are the actions taken by Niagara Mohawk to assess the current status of fire barrier penetrations at Nine Mile Point Unit 1 and assure the future integrity of these fire barrier penetrations.

Very truly yours,

T. E. Lemoges
Vice President
Nuclear Generation

TEL/MTG:djm
Attachment

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ATTACHMENT 1

Actions Taken as a Result of LER 83-44

1. Surveillance

Niagara Mohawk has temporarily implemented Technical Specification surveillance requirement 4.6.10.1.a.1 on a two month cycle instead of once per operating cycle. This was done to assure that penetrations are sealed properly while additional administrative controls are established. In addition, the surveillance procedure is being revised to reflect the results of the completed inspections.

2. Breach Permit

A breach permit requirement for penetrations in walls and floors has been created. This breach permit must be signed by the Station Shift Supervisor and Fire Department and Quality Control representatives.

3. Identification Drawings

Drawings which denote the Technical Specifications rated walls and floors have been developed and issued for use. These drawings identify those walls and floors, and therefore, those penetrations that are covered by Technical Specifications 3.6.10.1. This information will be used by Fire Department personnel and Operations personnel to assure adequate measures are taken when issuing and approving breach permits for penetrations in Technical Specifications rated walls/floors.

These same drawings are currently being revised to distinguish between technical specifications rated walls/floors, non-technical specifications rated walls/floors and non-rated walls/floors.

4. Inspection

An inspection of rated walls and floors that are covered by the Technical Specifications has been completed. Fire watches have been established, where necessary. Repair of the non-functional seals has been initiated. It is estimated that repair of the penetrations will take four months.

An inspection will also be made of non-technical specifications rated walls/floors. When the inspection is completed, repairs, if necessary, will be made.

5. Installation Procedures

New installation and repair procedures have been or are being developed for fire barrier penetration seals. These new procedures include definitions of Technical Specification rated walls/floors, specific plant conditions for opening penetrations in the Reactor Building walls, detailed steps with sign-off requirements for installing or repairing a penetration seal, a data sheet that must be completed for each penetration, acceptance criteria that state the tests required and Quality Control/Fire Department acceptance of the completed seal.

6. Penetration Seal Detail Drawings

Revised drawings showing the acceptable methods that can be used to seal various configurations have been developed and issued for use. These new detail drawings combine electrical and mechanical penetrations. Prior to this, there were separate drawing details for electrical and mechanical penetrations. These drawings contained conflicting details for sealing similar penetrations. By combining the two, a concise set of drawings will be developed that will eliminate conflicting sealing methods.