

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

NIAGARA  MOHAWK

Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station  
Post Office Box 32  
Lycoming, New York  
April 11, 1974



Mr. Donald J. Skovholt  
Assistant Director for Reactor Operations  
Division of Reactor Licensing  
United States Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545

Re: Provisional Operating License: DPR-17  
Docket No.: 50-220  
Abnormal Occurrence 50-220-74-4

Dear Mr. Skovholt:

On April 2, 1974 during the Spring 1974 refueling outage the low condenser vacuum sensors were tested as required by Technical Specification 3.6.2 Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit #1. Pursuant to Technical Specifications 1.13b and 6.6.b.1 the four (4) sensors NAMCO SNAP LOCK #D1200GU406 PT1 and D1200GSRO423 PT1 were reported to RO:I as drifting beyond allowable limits on April 2, 1974.

The low condenser vacuum sensors provide a reactor scram of  $23 \pm .5$ " of Hg. The primary reason for this trip is protection of the Turbine-Generator unit and does not have a nuclear related safety function.

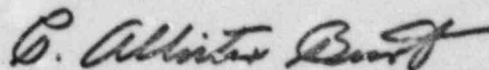
With the drift in sensor switch settings a reactor scram would have occurred slightly later in time in the event of decreasing condenser vacuum. The following is a tabulation of the test results:

| Number | 6/11/73 | 4/2/74 |
|--------|---------|--------|
| #11    | 22.55   | 21.80  |
| #12    | 22.70   | 22.00  |
| #21    | 22.62   | 21.90  |
| #22    | 22.57   | 21.80  |

The immediate corrective action was to recalibrate the sensors switched to required actuation point. This is the first failure of this type on these sensors.

As these sensors are required only for Turbine Generator unit protection and that protective function would have occurred only slightly later in time, no hazard was presented to the general public.

Very truly yours,

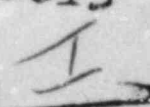


P. Allister Burt  
General Superintendent  
Nuclear Generation

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FROM: THOMAS J. PERKINS - NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION #1

ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE 50-220-74-4

PERSUANT TO THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS 1.13b and 3.6.2, WE ARE REPORTING AS AN ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE THE DRIFT IN THE LOW CONDENSER VACUUM SENSORS.

THE LOW CONDENSER VACUUM SENSORS NORMALLY PROVIDE A REACTOR SCRAM AT  $23 \pm .5$ " OF HG. THE PRIMARY REASON FOR THE TRIP IS PROTECTION OF THE TURBINE GENERATOR UNIT AND DOES NOT HAVE A NUCLEAR RELATED SAFETY FUNCTION.

THE FOUR SENSORS ACTUATED LOW WHICH WOULD CAUSE THE REACTOR SCRAM TO OCCUR SLIGHTLY LATER IN TIME IN THE EVENT OF DECREASING CONDENSER VACUUM. THE FOLLOWING IS A TABULATION OF THE TEST RESULTS:

| NUMBER | 6/11/73 | 4/2/74 | REQUIRED    |
|--------|---------|--------|-------------|
| #11    | 22.55   | 21.8   | $23 \pm .5$ |
| #12    | 22.7    | 22.0   | "           |
| #21    | 22.6    | 21.9   | "           |
| #22    | 22.5    | 21.8   | "           |

THE CORRECTIVE ACTION WAS TO RESET THE SENSORS, NAMCO SNAP-LOCK #D1200GU406PT1 + #D1200GSRU423PT1 TO THE REQUIRED TRIP POINT.

AS THE SENSORS PROVIDE TURBINE-GENERATOR PROTECTION ONLY AND WOULD HAVE CAUSED THAT PROTECTIVE FUNCTION ONLY SLIGHTLY LATER IN TIME NO HAZARD WAS PRESENTED TO THE STATION OR THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

T. J. PERKINS  
STATION SUPERINTENDENT

*Perkins*  
*5-22-74*