

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Nine Mile Point Unit 2

)
)
)
)
)

Docket No. 50-410

APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO OPERATING LICENSE

Pursuant to Section 50.90 of the Regulations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC), holder of Facility Operating License No. NPF-69, hereby requests that Specification 4.6.2 of the Technical Specifications (TS) set forth in Appendix A to the license be amended. The proposed changes have been reviewed in accordance with Section 6.5 of the TS.

NMPC proposes to revise TS Section 4.6.2, "Depressurization Systems - Suppression Pool," The proposed revisions will extend the time interval for performing the containment drywell-to-suppression bypass leakage test from 18 months to an interval corresponding to that required for the Containment Integrated Leak Rate Test. In a separate action, NMPC has submitted an Application for an Amendment which would revise the Technical Specifications to incorporate Option B of 10CFR50 Appendix J. The Appendix J revision would result in changing the required frequency of the Integrated Leak Rate Test. The amendment requested by this submittal and the Appendix J revisions are independent actions, however, the proposed Technical Specification changes have been developed to ensure consistency.

NMPC has determined that drywell-to-suppression chamber bypass leakage from pathways, other than through the drywell floor penetrations containing the suppression chamber vacuum breakers, is negligible based on engineering evaluations, design features and fabrication specifications for drywell-to-suppression chamber components. Performing the drywell-to-suppression chamber bypass leak test every 18 months (refueling outage) results in excessive and unnecessary pressurization cycles of the containment. The bypass leak test also limits the flexibility of outage planning as personnel are not permitted to work inside the containment while it is pressurized for bypass leakage testing. In order to support the change to the frequency of the bypass leak test, a surveillance test involving testing of the bypass leakage path containing the suppression chamber vacuum breakers is also proposed. This surveillance test will incorporate stringent leakage acceptance criteria, and will be performed each refueling outage that the bypass leak test is not performed.

The proposed changes will not authorize any change in the type of effluent or in the authorized power level of the facility. Supporting information and analysis which demonstrate that the proposed changes involve no significant hazards consideration pursuant to 10CFR50.92 are included as Attachment B.

Wherefore, Applicant respectfully requests that Appendix A to Facility Operating License No. NPF-69 be amended in the form attached hereto as Attachment A.

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

By

Richard B. Abbott

Richard B. Abbott

Vice President - Nuclear Generation

Subscribed and Sworn to before me
on this 15th day of February 1996

Linda M. Landers

NOTARY PUBLIC

LINDA M. LANDERS
Notary Public, State of New York
Registration No. 4908015
Qualified in Jefferson County
Commission Expires October 13, 1997