NIAGARA MOHAWK

GENERATION **BUSINESS GROUP**

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION/LAKE ROAD, P.O. BOX 63, LYCOMING, NEW YORK 13093

May 1, 1998 NMP1L 1313

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Attn: Document Control Desk Washington, DC 20555

RE: LER 97-15 Docket No. 50-220

Gentlemen:

This letter is to inform the NRC that Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) is retracting LER 97-15, "Potential Bypass Leakage Path Between Drywell and Torus During Vent and Purge" which had been reported in accordance with 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(v)(D), "Any event or condition that alone could have prevented the fulfillment of the safety functions of structures or systems that are needed to: (D) Mitigate the consequences of an accident."

After completing analysis described in corrective action 3 of the original LER, it was determined that the potential leakage path during vent and purge would not have prevented the Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP1) primary containment from performing its accident safety functions as described in the NMP1 Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR). Specifically, the results are that the peak torus pressure would have been 24 psig, which is well below the design pressure of 35 psig. Therefore, the event is not reportable.

Very truly yours,

What of Smith

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Robert G. Smith Plant Manager - NMP1

RGS/GJG/kap

Mr. H. J. Miller, Regional Administrator, Region I
Mr. S. S. Bajwa, Director, Project Directorate I-1, NRR
Mr. B. S. Norris, Senior Resident Inspector
Mr. D. S. Hood, Senior Project Manager, NRR
Records Management

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