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NOVEMBER 9 1978

Docket No. 50-220

Mr. Donald P. Dise
Vice President - Engineering
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13202

Dear Mr. Dise:

Your submittal of March 22, 1978, relating to control rod removals at Nine Mile Point Station, Unit No. 1, is being reviewed by our staff. In order to complete our review, you are requested to provide within 60 days of receipt of this letter, the additional information identified in the enclosure.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Thomas A. Ippolito, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Request for Additional
Information

cc w/enclosure:
see next page

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OFFICE >	ORB#3	ORB#3				
SURNAME >	PPolk:acr	Tippolito				
DATE >	11/9/78	11/9/78				

OR3

NOVEMBER 1978

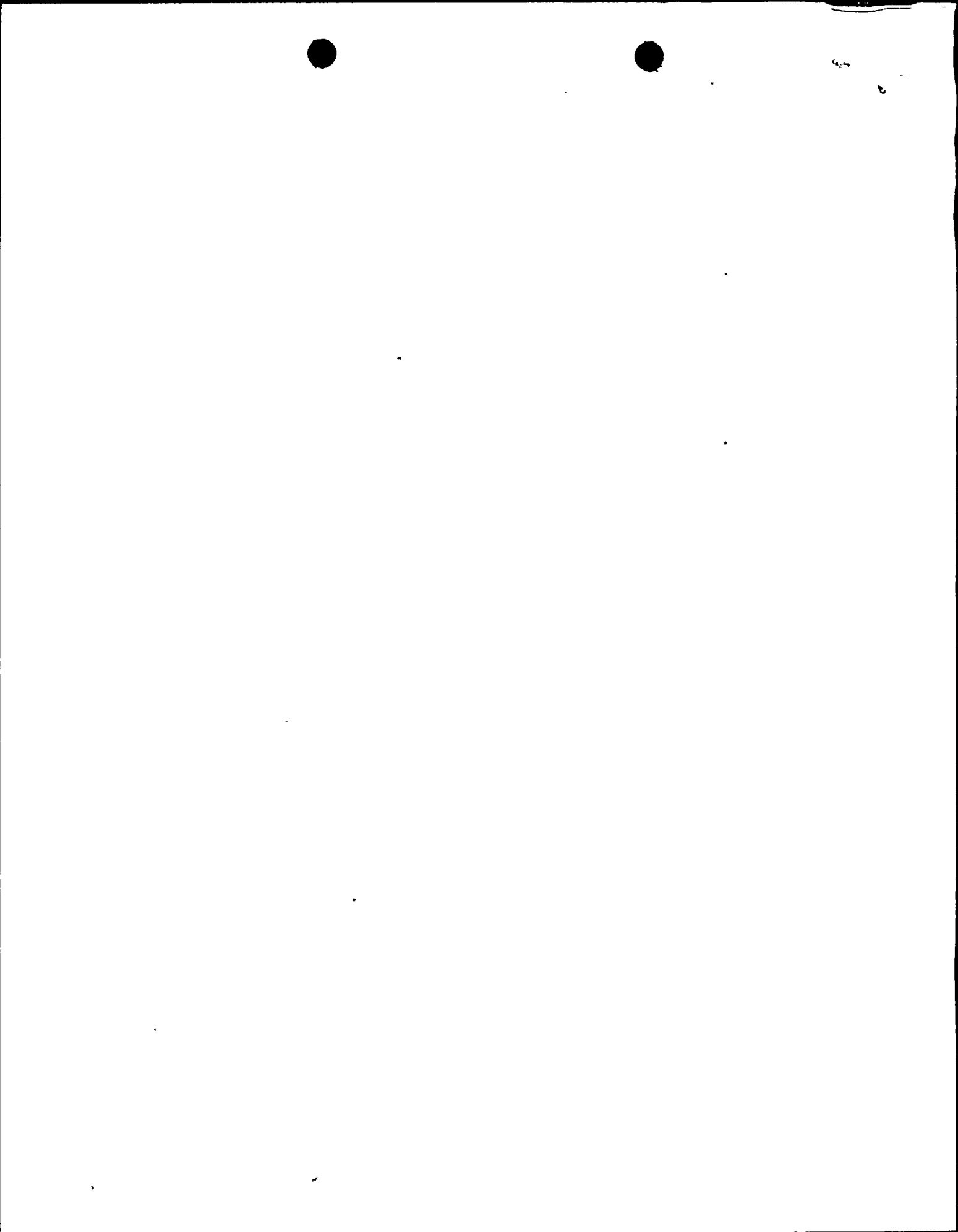
Original of 1

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

cc: Eugene B. Thomas, Jr., Esquire
LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae
1757 N Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Anthony Z. Roisman
Natural Resources Defense Council
917 15th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20005

Oswego County Office Building
46 E. Bridge Street
Oswego, New York 13126



REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The proposed LCO 3.5.3 does not have a corresponding surveillance requirement. We have incidents on file where, during control rod drive maintenance, rods were inadvertently pulled which violated the Technical Specifications. In one case, the forbidden rod pattern was never noticed by plant personnel, but instead was discovered by an NRC inspector while walking through the control room. Therefore, either provide a surveillance requirement or justify in detail how the Technical Specifications will preclude withdrawal of an incorrect rod assuming a single operator error.
2. Do the SRM channels at NMP have audible alarms in the control room and on the refueling floor?
3. Cells from which both fuel and control blades have been removed will be moderator filled cavities imbedded in the core. Although such a configuration probably is less reactive than a fully loaded core with one rod out, it is certainly possible for such a "flux trap" to actually increase reactivity. Therefore, provide or reference a calculation, using an approved code, of a worst-case core configuration with such a cavity. This calculation must bound the present core plus all future cores, since this is a permanent change to the Technical Specifications.



3.1.1

