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 RECIP. NAME! RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 CARLSON, R. T. Region 1, Philadelphia, Reactor Construction & Engineering

SUBJECT: Interim deficiency rept re potential failure of reactor pressure vessel support skirt access hole cover plates, originally reported 810129. Design mod planned. Next rept by 810901.

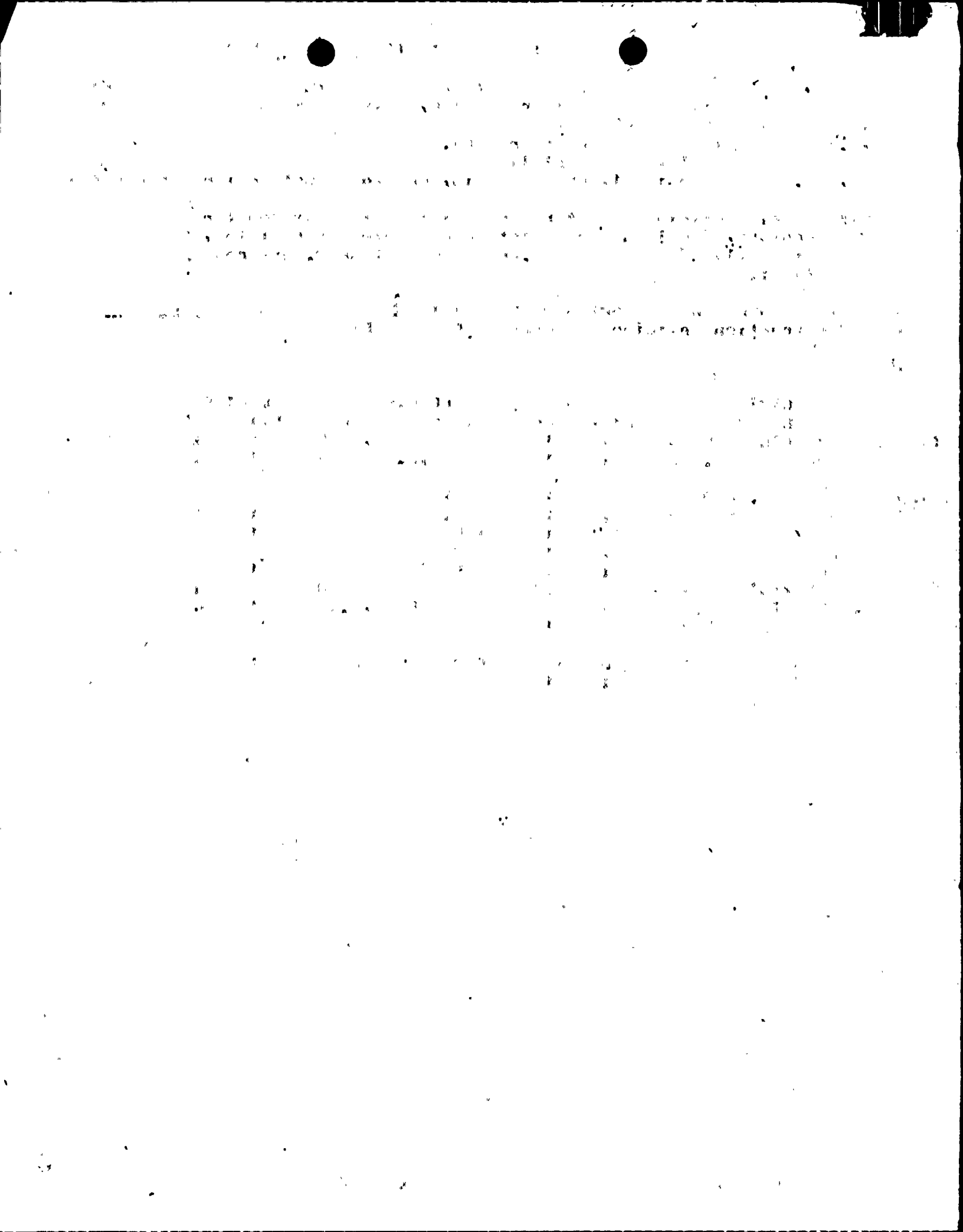
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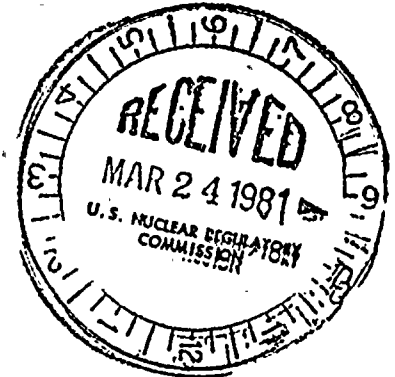
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March 13, 1981

Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
Attention: Mr. R. T. Carlson, Chief
Reactor Construction and Engineering
Support Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406



Dear Mr. Carlson:

Re: Nine Mile Point Unit 2
Docket No. 50-410

On January 29, 1981, you were informed by telephone of a potentially reportable deficiency in accordance with 10CFR50.55(e) at Nine Mile Point Unit 2. This condition involves the potential failure of the reactor pressure vessel support skirt access hole cover plates.

The attached interim report is submitted in accordance with Paragraph 50.55(e)(3) of the Commission's regulations. Another report will be provided by September 1, 1981.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

Gerald K. Rhode
Vice President

System Project Management

PEF/djm
Attachment

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INTERIM REPORT

Potential Reportable 50.55(e) Deficiency Involving the Reactor Pressure Vessel Support Skirt Access Hole Cover Plates.

DESCRIPTION OF DEFICIENCY

A preliminary analysis indicates that the reactor pressure vessel support skirt access hole cover plates as currently designed may not be adequate to withstand the newly identified loads of a LOCA annulus pressurization event. A detailed stress analysis has not been performed to confirm that the cover plates will fail.

A description of the annulus pressurization modeling technique and a generic evaluation of the new loads are contained in General Electric documents NEDO-24548 and NEDO-24547 respectively. The plant specific loads will be provided in the Unit 2 Final Safety Analysis Report.

ANALYSIS OF SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

If the failure of the cover plates occurred, they could conceivably become missile, which could impinge on the control rod drive housings.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

It is anticipated that this potential deficiency will be corrected by modifying the design of the access hole cover plates rather than performing a more detailed stress analysis. The design being considered would require a hinge design with thicker covers.

