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 FLOREK, D. Region 1, Ofc of the Director
 GALLO, R. Region 1, Ofc of the Director
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SUBJECT: PNO-I-89-064B: Nine Mile Point Unit 2 unsatisfactory
 requalification program (update).

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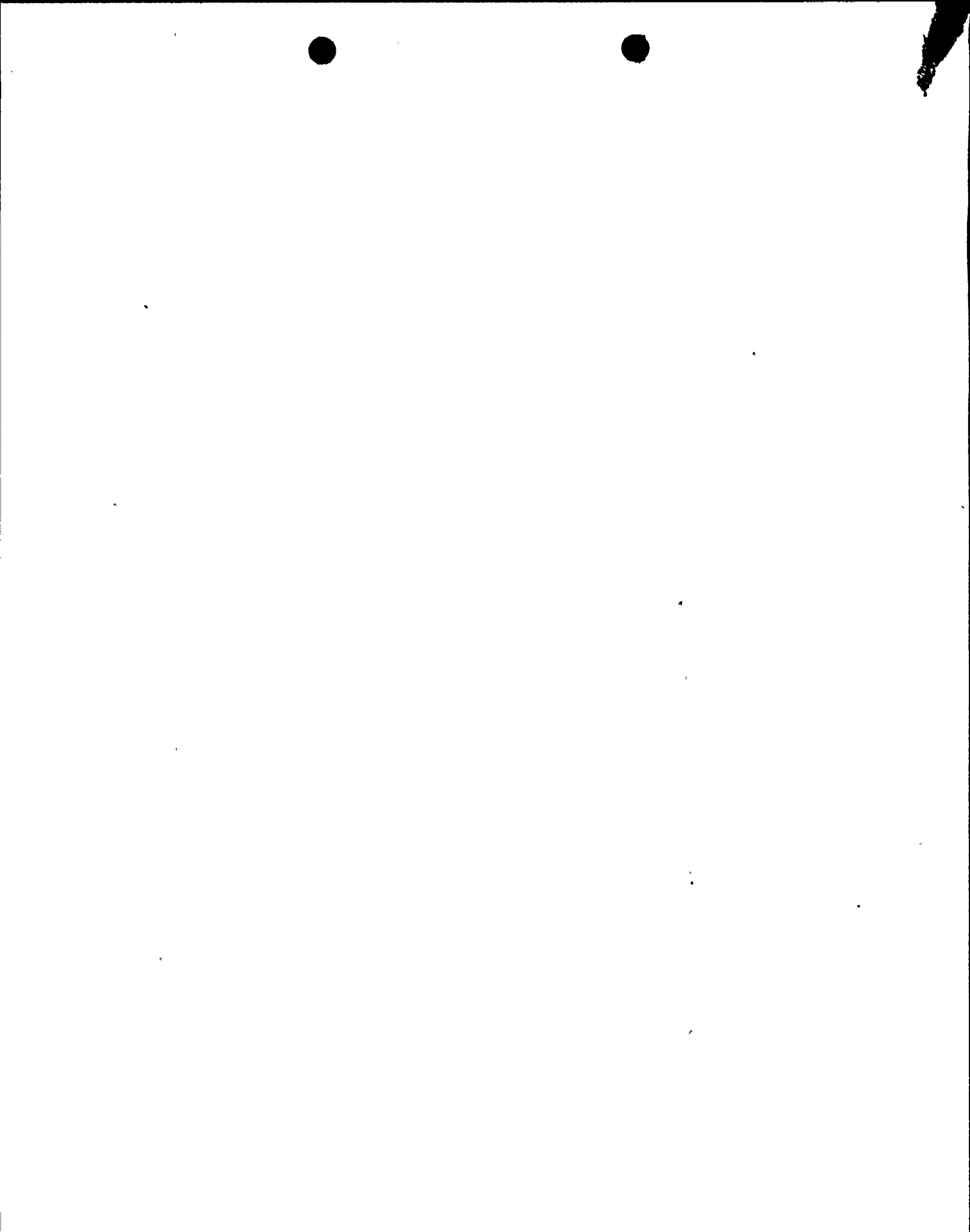
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Date: August 3, 1989

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-89-64B

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

Facility:

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
 Nine Mile Point Unit 2
 Scriba, New York
 Docket No. 50-410

Licensee Emergency Classification:

Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

Subject: NINE MILE POINT UNIT 2 UNSATISFACTORY REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM (UPDATE)

Results of the NRC administered requalification examination performed during the weeks of July 17, 1989 and July 24, 1989 indicated that the requalification program at NMP-2 was not satisfactory. Twenty four licensed operators (18 on-shift and 6 staff) in six four man crews were examined. NRC results indicated 2 crews failed and 9 of the operators failed at least one aspect of the examination. The affected individuals were removed from watch-standing duties until they have successfully been remediated and re-evaluated.

An exit meeting was held in the Regional Office on July 31, 1989 with the Regional Administrator to discuss the results of the exam and why the facility should be allowed to operate during the remediation period.

The facility has gone to a 12 hour shift rotation with four shifts. Three of the shifts have either passed the facility requalification exam or passed the NRC administered requalification exam or are newly licensed by the NRC. The fourth shift was examined by the NRC and facility on August 1-3, 1989. Preliminary results of this examination indicate that all 5 members passed the simulator and plant walkthrough examinations and 1 person failed the written examination.

NMP-2 is currently operating at full power. The licensee's decision on whether to continue plant operations is being delayed to complete the evaluation of exam results. This information is current as of 3:00 p.m. on August 3, 1989.

The Region I Public Affairs Office is responding to media queries.

This PN is issued for information only.

CONTACT: Don Florek Robert Gallo
 346-5185 346-5291

8908100206 890803
 PDR I&E
 PNO-1-89-064B PDC

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