

MAY 31 1990

Docket No. 50-410

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
ATTN: Mr. Lawrence Burkhardt, III
Executive Vice President
Nuclear Operations
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Gentlemen:

Subject: REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM EVALUATION, REPORT NO. 50-410/90-16 (OL)

During the week of April 30, 1990, the NRC conducted a requalification program evaluation at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2. The evaluation was conducted in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examiner Standards," Revision 5, section ES-601, "Administration of NRC Requalification Program Evaluations." The evaluation had two purposes: (1) to evaluate individual licensed operator competency, and (2) to evaluate the effectiveness of the licensed operator training program. At the conclusion of the evaluation, findings related to the preparation and administration of the requalification examinations were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

The three crews that participated in the examinations performed satisfactorily on the simulator portion of the examination. All six senior reactor operators and nine reactor operators examined passed all portions of the examination. However, because the program had been previously declared unsatisfactory, further actions as discussed in this letter are to be completed prior to returning the program to a satisfactory status.

During this examination process, the NRC team also reviewed the implementation of the corrective actions for the deficiencies identified during the July 1989 requalification examination which resulted in an unsatisfactory requalification program evaluation. These corrective actions are documented in an Action Plan attached to your letter dated January 10, 1990. The team concluded that the corrective actions were essentially complete and generally effective and that a significant improvement in the requalification program was evident.

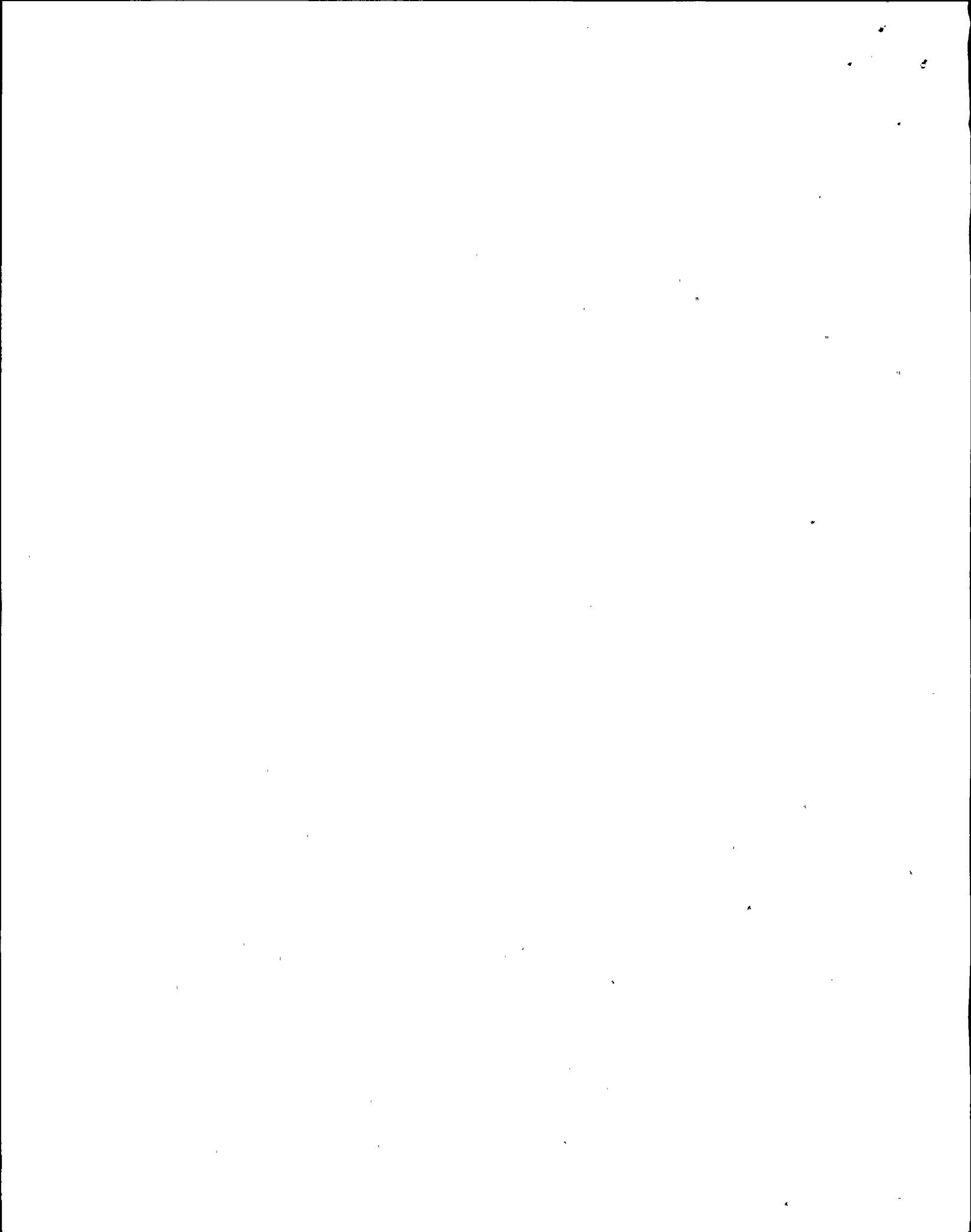
In order to return the requalification program to a satisfactory status, Niagara Mohawk should certify in writing to the NRC Regional Administrator that all short term corrective actions have been completed (see Sections 7.3, 7.4, and 7.9) and that all program deficiencies, including those identified by the NRC, have been addressed.

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The enclosed report also documents a violation reported by Niagara Mohawk in a letter dated February 21, 1990, regarding the medical examination of licensed operators. In reviewing this matter, the NRC staff has determined that issuing a Notice of Violation is not appropriate. The staff has chosen to exercise this discretion because the violation meets all of the criteria of Appendix C of 10 CFR Part 2, Section G for a licensee identified violation.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed report will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. R. Conte, Chief BWR Section, at (215) 337-5210.

Sincerely,

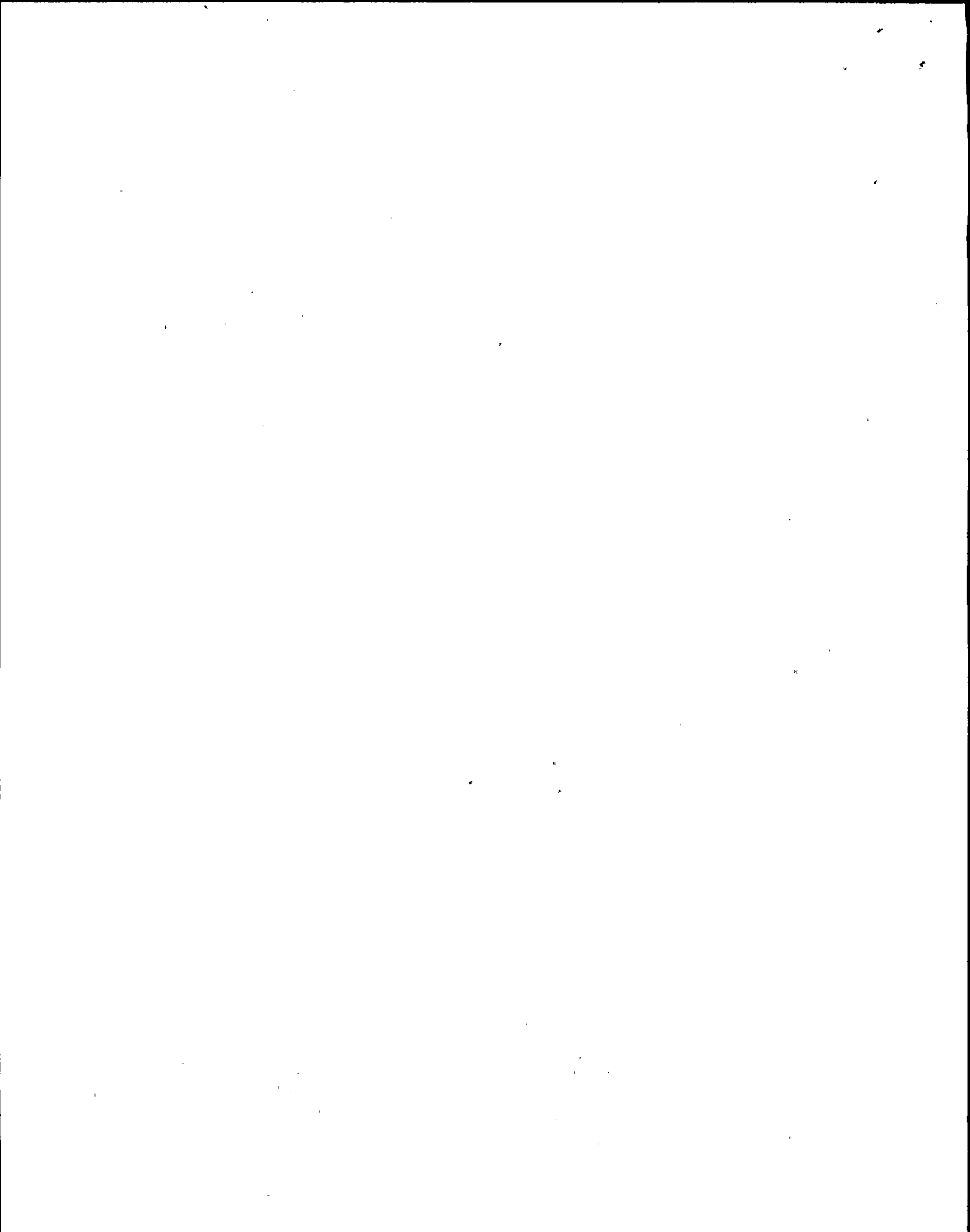
ROBERT M. GALLO

Robert M. Gallo, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure: Requalification Program Evaluation, Report No. 50-410/90-16 (OL)
with Attachments

cc w/encl:

C. Mangan, Senior Vice President
W. Hansen, Manager, Corporate Quality Assurance
M. Colomb, Unit 2 Superintendent, Operations
C. Beckham, Manager, Nuclear Quality Assurance Operations
R. Abbott, Unit 2 Station Superintendent
J. Perry, Vice President, Quality Assurance
K. Dahlberg, Unit 1 Station Superintendent
R. Randall, Unit 1 Superintendent, Operations
J. Willis, General Station Superintendent
C. Terry, Vice President Nuclear Engineering and Licensing
J. Warden, New York Consumer Protection Branch
T. Conner, Jr., Esquire
G. Wilson, Senior Attorney
J. Keib, Esquire
Director, Power Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York
State of New York, Department of Law
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New York, SLO Designee



bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encl)

R. Bellamy, DRSS

J. Linville, DRP

D. Limroth, DRP

G. Meyer, DRP

J. Caldwell, NRR

R. Martin, NRR

R. Conte, DRS

P. Bonnett, DRS

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L. Larson, Examiner, PNL

J. Dyer, EDO

NRR Project Manger

DRS Files (5)

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