

CATEGORY 1

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

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SUBJECT: PNO-I-96-058: on 960808, dental clutch on Unit 1 main generator damaged. Caused while attempting to place feed pump in svc after repairs. Power limited to 45% based on capacity of 2 motor drive feedwater pumps. State of NY informed.

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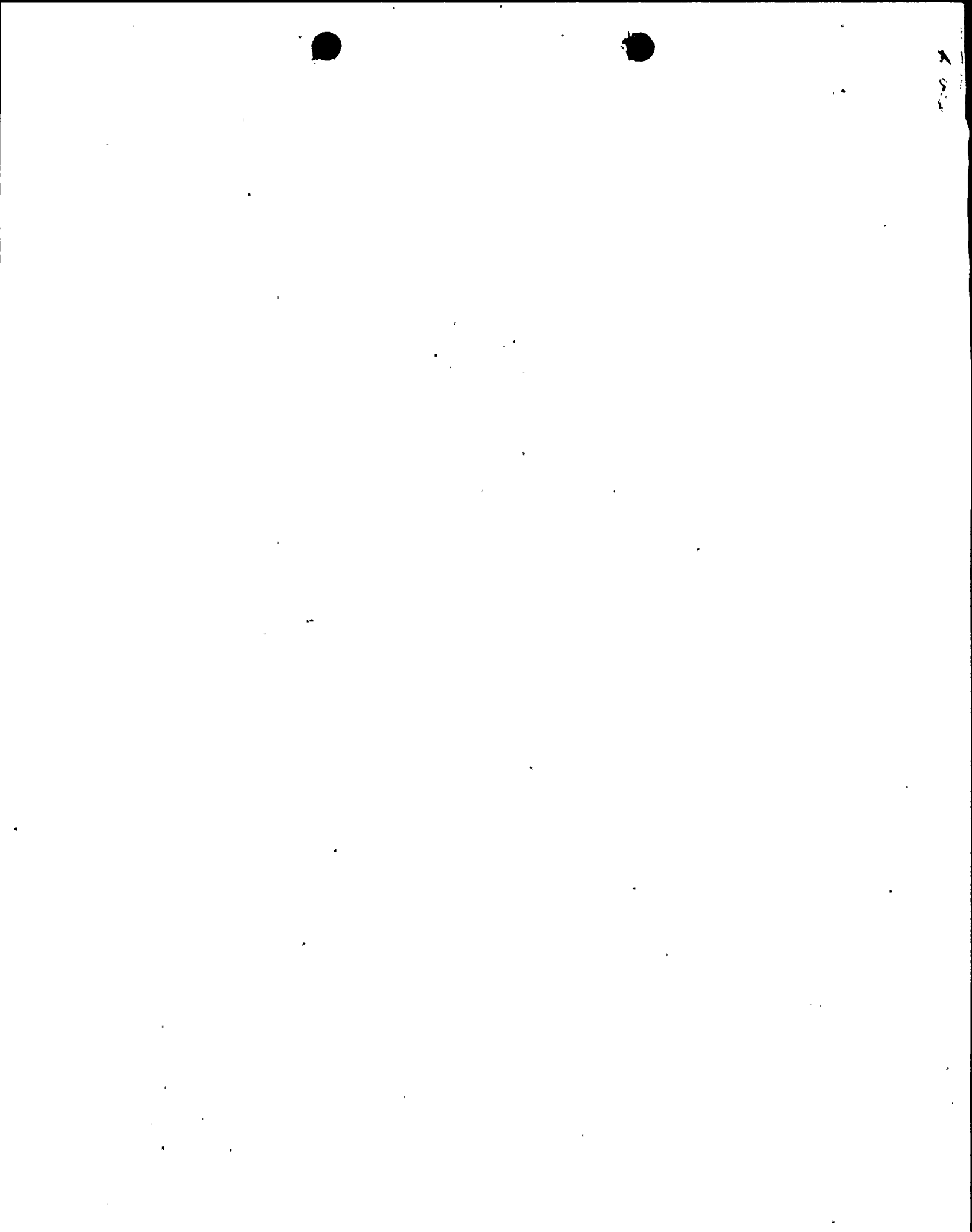
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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PN1-96-058

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 1
Scriba, New York

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

Docket No.: 50-220
License No.: BWR/GE-2
Event No.:
Event Location Code:

SUBJECT: PLANT SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

At 6:52 p.m. on August 8, 1996, the licensee took the Unit 1 main generator off-line to inspect the shaft-driven feedwater pump friction and dental clutches for potential damage. Inspection results concluded that damage had occurred to the dental clutch, and a normal reactor shutdown was conducted. Unit 1 was in cold shutdown as of 9:10 a.m. this morning.

On July 19, 1996, the shaft-driven feedwater pump was secured as a result of a scheduled power reduction to inspect and clean the main turbine condenser water box. On the morning of July 22, the shaft-driven feedwater pump failed to adequately engage with the friction clutch, resulting in the inability to achieve required speed (RPM). The unit was shutdown on July 28 to perform repairs. The unit was restarted on August 3. While attempting to place the feed pump in service, damage occurred to the dental clutch. Since then, the unit had been operating at approximately 45 percent thermal power. Power was limited to 45 percent based on the capacity of the two motor driven feedwater pumps.

According to the licensee, repairs to the dental clutch will take approximately 16 weeks. Therefore, the licensee is evaluating two options for returning the feed pump to service. The first option is to install a stub shaft, allowing for a direct drive between the turbine and feed pump. The second option is to operate the feed pump solely on the friction clutch. Additionally, the licensee determined that the feed pump output shaft thrust bearings and brake assembly will require replacement. The earliest the licensee anticipates plant startup is Sunday, August 11.

The resident staff is following licensee activities during the forced outage, and will review the licensee's resolution for returning the shaft driven feedwater pump to operation. The State of New York has been informed.

The Region I Public Affairs Office is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

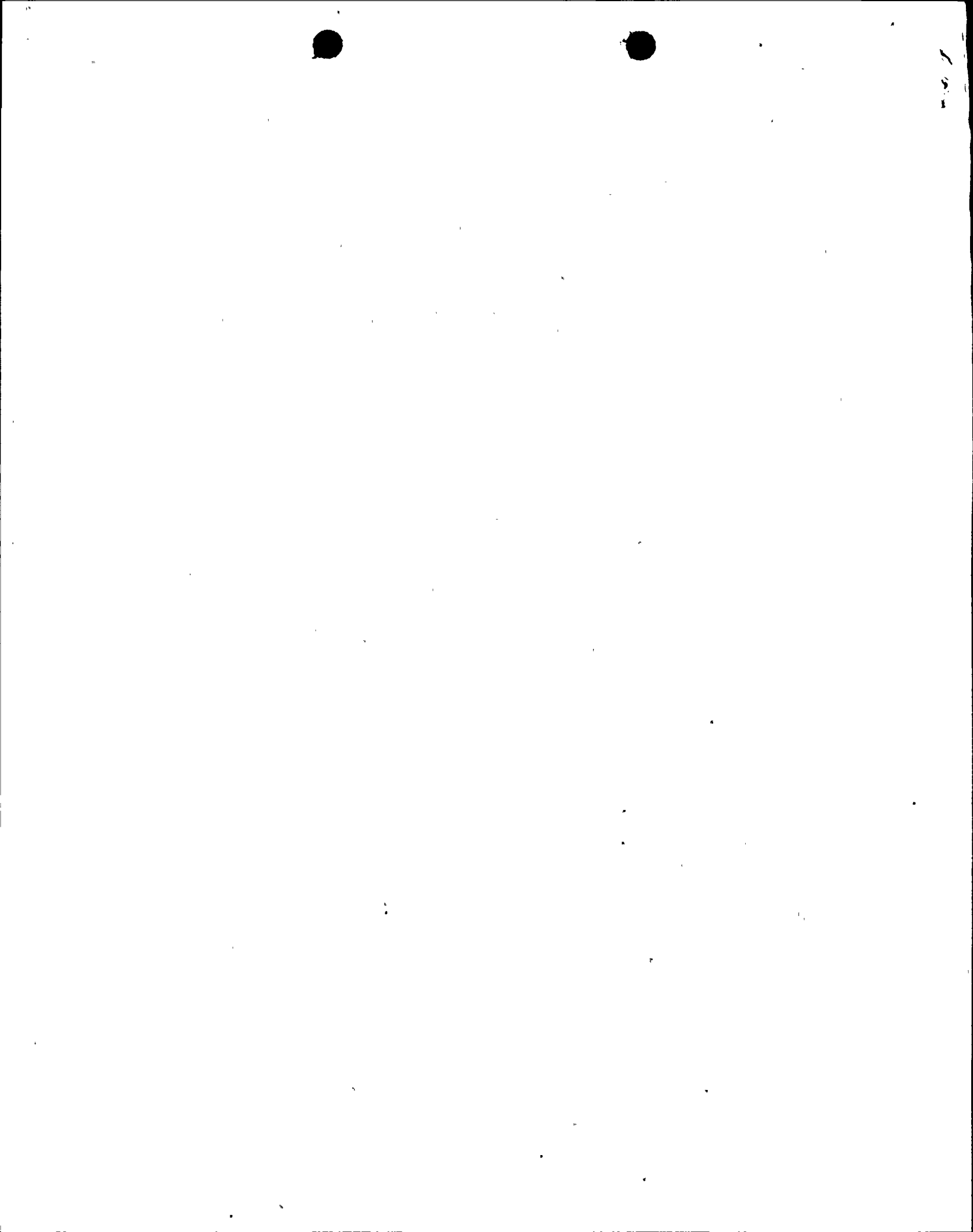
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(Rev. March 1996)

