

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-96-079

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	Licensee Emergency Classification
Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.	Notification of Unusual Event
Nine Mile Point 1	Alert
Lycoming, New York	Site Area Emergency
Dockets: 50-220	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: REACTOR SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

At 10:53 p.m., on November 5, 1996, Nine Mile Point Unit 1 experienced a turbine trip and reactor scram. The turbine trip was due to a trip of the generator exciter ground relay. All control rods inserted and the high pressure coolant injection system (HPCI) initiated, as expected. The licensee continues their investigation to determine whether there was a valid ground signal, or if the relay failed.

Following the reactor trip there were some complications related to high reactor vessel level. On a reactor vessel high level (95 inches), the HPCI pump flow control valves receive a signal to close. However, one of the HPCI pumps tripped on low suction pressure, and the flow control valve for the operating HPCI pump apparently leaked by. Reactor vessel water level continued to rise and reached at least 123 inches before an operator manually tripped the operating HPCI pump. Initial indications are that one of the emergency condenser (EC) inlet lines may have experienced a water hammer as a result of the high reactor level. The EC lines tap off the reactor vessel at 97 inches. The main steam lines tap off at 140 inches and were not affected. The licensee is investigating these issues.

The unit is currently proceeding to cold shutdown. During the shutdown, the licensee plans to troubleshoot the equipment issues noted above, and perform some inservice inspections.

The resident staff is following licensee activities.

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

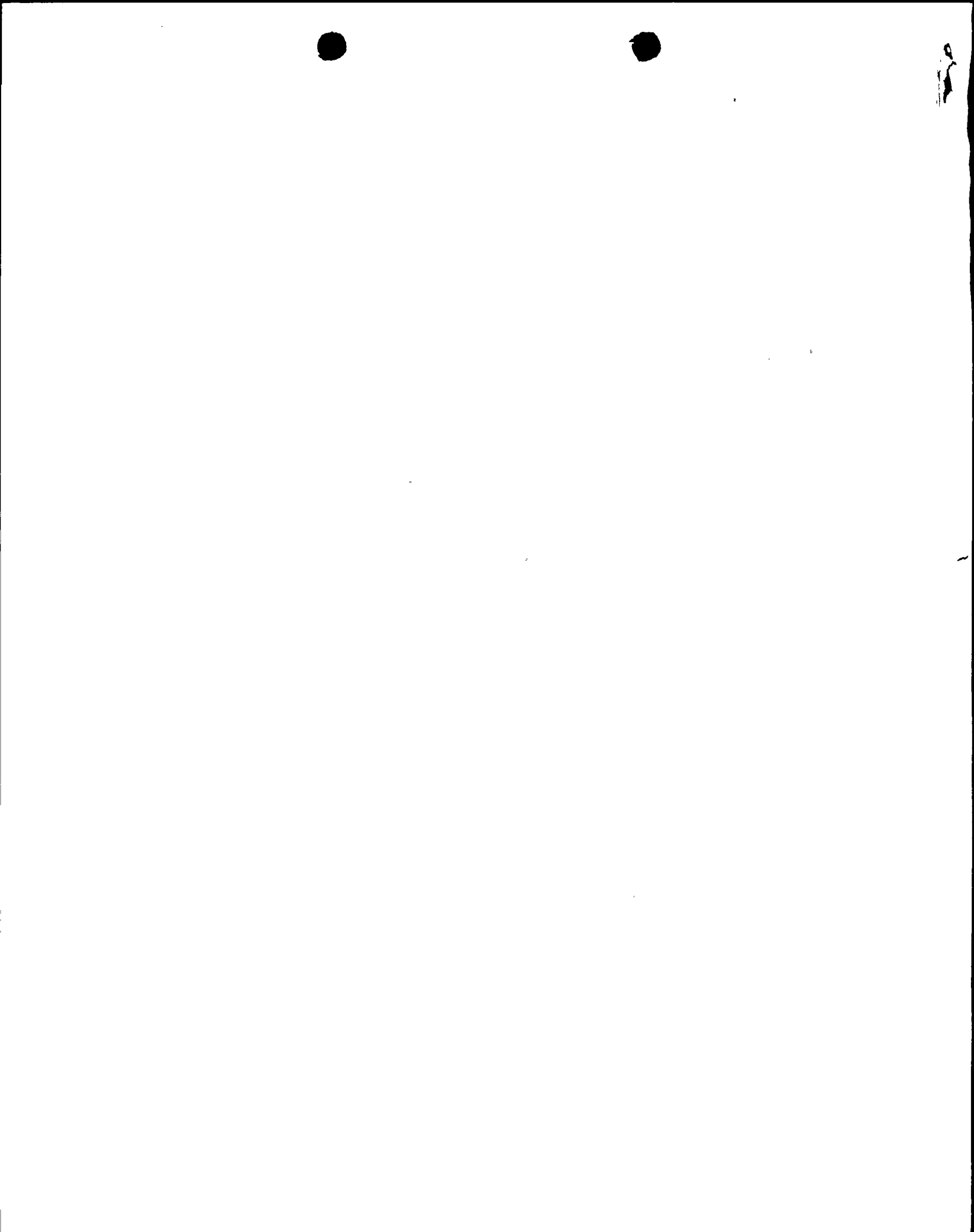
The State of New York has been informed of the information contained in this PN.

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Regional Offices _____

RI Resident Office

Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees)

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Region I Form 83
(Rev. August 1996)

