

# CATEGORY 1

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 ABBOTT, R.B.                  Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.  
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SUBJECT: Notices of schedule change for submittal of suppls to LERS  
 96-08 & 96-12. Root cause evaluations require addl time to  
 complete.

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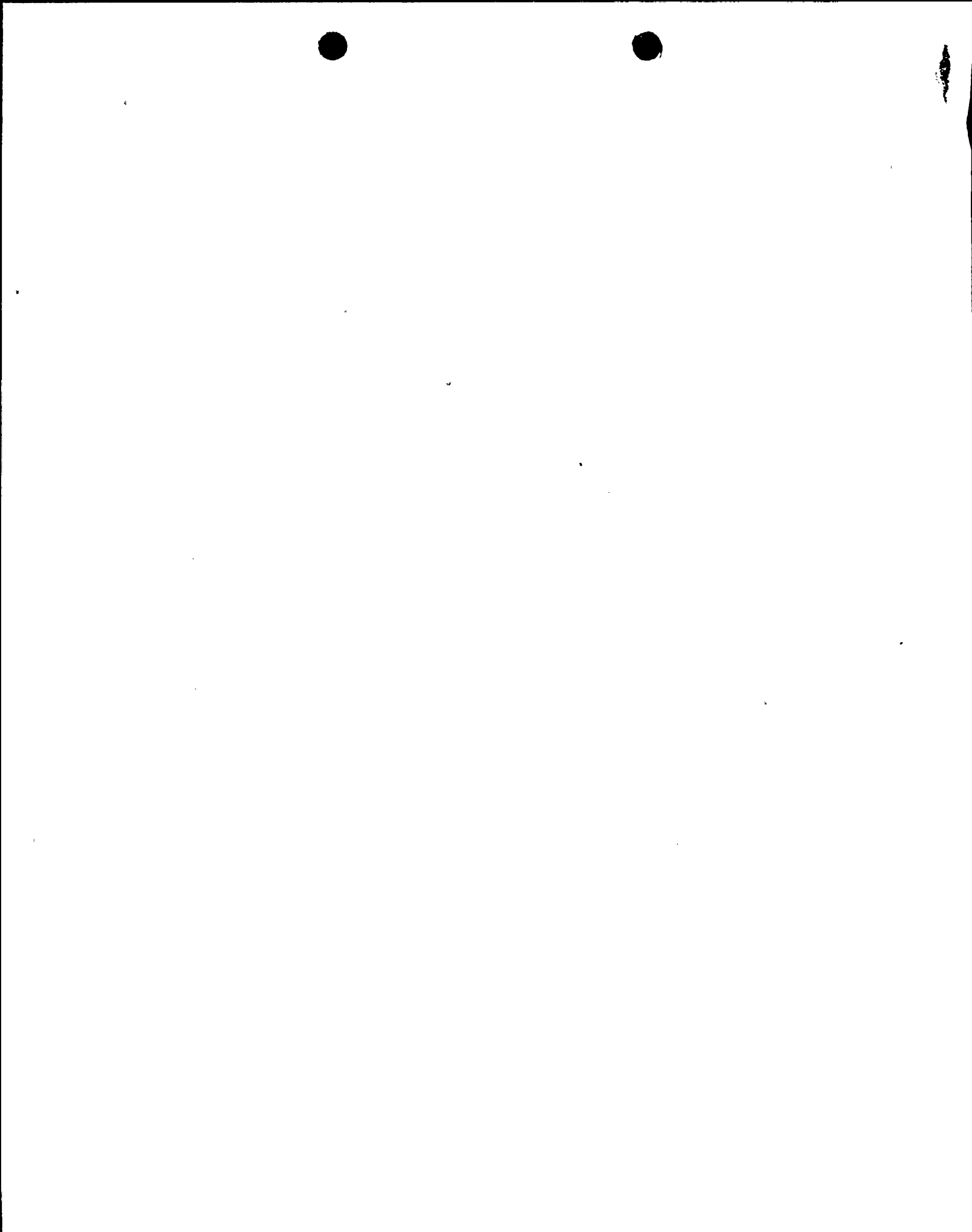
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NIAGARA MOHAWK

GENERATION  
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NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION/LAKE ROAD, P.O. BOX 63, LYCOMING, NEW YORK 13093/TELEPHONE (315) 349-1812  
FAX (315) 349-4417

RICHARD B. ABBOTT  
Vice President and  
General Manager - Nuclear

December 20, 1996  
NMP1L1168

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

RE:           Nine Mile Point Unit 1  
              Docket No. 50-220  
                        DPR-63          

              Nine Mile Point Unit 2  
              Docket No. 50-410  
                        NPF-69          

*Subject:       Notification of Schedule Change for LER Supplements*

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of a schedule change for the submittal of supplements to two Licensee Event Reports (LERs). The two LERs are:

Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP1) LER 96-08, "Technical Specification Violation Involving Missed Augmented Inspections Caused by Inadequate Change Management," and

Nine Mile Point Unit 2 (NMP2) LER 96-12, "Technical Specification Violation Involving Missed Augmented Inspections Caused by Inadequate Change Management."

In both of these LERs Niagara Mohawk described a corrective action to perform a root cause evaluation of the discrepancies identified in the Inservice Inspection Program, and report the results of the evaluation in an LER supplement. The expected date for these supplements was indicated as December 20, 1996. Niagara Mohawk, for the reasons explained in the following paragraphs, has revised the schedule for submittal of these two supplements to January 17, 1997.

Niagara Mohawk established an evaluation team to perform the root cause evaluation of the deficiencies identified in the above two LERs. As a result of the evaluation performed to date, Niagara Mohawk has determined that additional time is required to properly complete this effort. The following factors contributed to Niagara Mohawk's decision to revise the schedule for submittal of these supplements.

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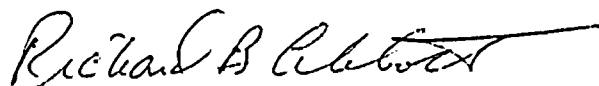
The root cause evaluation has resulted in a review of Niagara Mohawk past actions related to development of the augmented inspection program. This has involved assessment of some activities which occurred almost ten years ago. This part of the evaluation has been time consuming, because of the need to identify and review many archived documents, and because many of the individuals involved in past activities are no longer employed at Nine Mile Point.

The initial Unit 1 LER also contained a corrective action to review four other systems for potential discrepancies. Resources needed for this review were also required for the root cause evaluation. This has affected the progress of both activities.

As a result of these factors, Niagara Mohawk has determined that an extension of the schedule to January 17, 1997, is required to assure the effort is properly performed. In addition, the completion schedule for corrective action 3 of Unit 1 LER 96-08, which involved review of the ISI program plan for four additional systems, has also been revised to January 17, 1997. While the review of these systems has been performed, an additional final verification of the results by the ISI Program Manager will also be performed.

Prior to startup from the latest Unit 2 refueling outage, and from a recent Unit 1 forced outage, inspections were performed on identified welds which had not previously been examined. No deficiencies were identified. Further, as a result of the root cause and program plan evaluation activities performed to date, Niagara Mohawk has not identified any new conditions which resulted in additional missed inspections.

Very truly yours,



Richard B. Abbott

Vice President and General Manager - Nuclear

RBA/AFZ/lmc

xc: Mr. H. J. Miller, Regional Administrator Region I  
Mr. B. S. Norris, Senior Resident Inspector  
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