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SUBJECT: Discusses reclassification of weld 32-WD-050.

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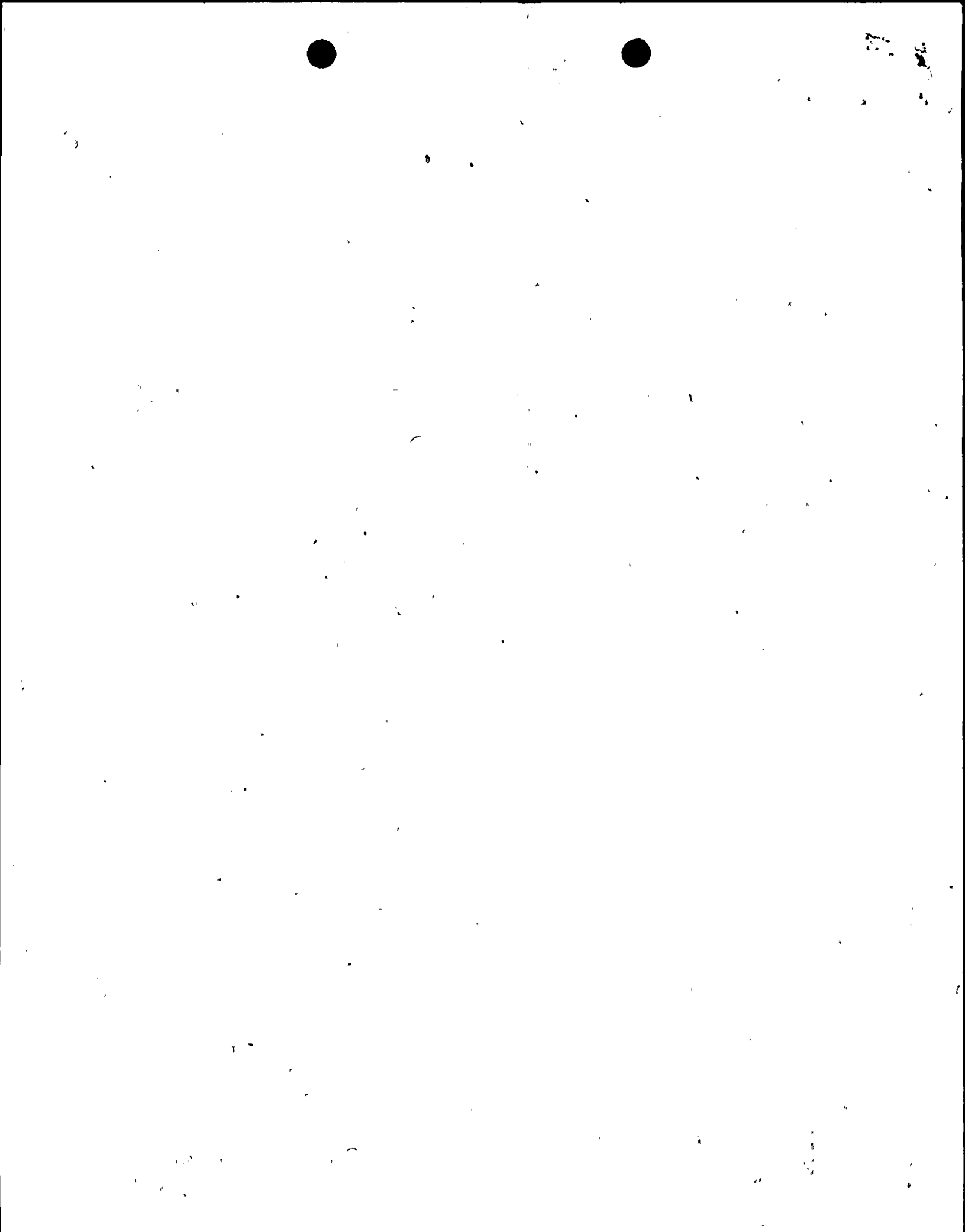
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April 21, 1997
NMP1L 1205

MARTIN J. McCORMICK JR. P.E.
Vice President
Nuclear Engineering

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

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

Subject: *Reclassification of Weld 32-WD-050*

Gentlemen:

In our letter of April 7, 1997 (NMP1L 1201), we provided the analytical evaluation of a rejectable weld indication in weld 32-WD-050. This evaluation concluded that it was acceptable to operate Nine Mile Point 1 (NMP1) for the upcoming operating cycle without repair of the weld indication. We also explained our plans for future examination of the indication, as we had concluded that there was not enough information at this time to positively characterize this indication.

As a result of a phone discussion with members of the NRC staff on April 17, 1997, Niagara Mohawk has revised the NMP1 Inservice Inspection Program Plan to classify weld 32-WD-050 as a Category "F" weld. Niagara Mohawk agrees with the NRC staff that this action is a conservative classification, which documents the requirement to perform an examination during each refueling outage. It was acknowledged during the discussion that, should the next refueling outage examination results conclude that this indication is not an Intergranular Stress Corrosion crack, the weld would appropriately be reclassified back to Category "A". The reclassification of weld 32-WD-050 to Category "F" does not alter the conclusions or commitments contained in our April 7, 1997 correspondence.

Very truly yours,

ADDV/10

M. J. McCormick Jr.
Vice President - Nuclear Engineering.

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