

Mr. B. Ralph Sylvia  
Executive Vice President, Generation  
Business Group and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
Nuclear Learning Center  
450 Lake Road  
Oswego, NY 13126

April 30, 1997

SUBJECT: FLAW EVALUATION OF RECIRCULATION LINE WELD 32-WD-050 FOR NINE MILE  
POINT NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 1 (TAC NO. M98414)

Dear Mr. Sylvia:

In a letter dated April 7, 1997, you provided the analytical evaluation of a rejectable weld indication in weld 32-WD-050. From your evaluation, you concluded that it is acceptable to operate Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP1) for the upcoming cycle without repair of the weld indication. In a letter dated April 21, 1997, you informed us that you revised the NMP1 Inservice Inspection Program Plan to classify weld 32-WD-050 as a Category "F" weld. As a Category "F" weld, this weld will have to be examined during each refueling outage. The classification of weld 32-WD-050 did not change the conclusions reached in your April 7, 1997, letter.

Based on a review of your submittal and on independent crack growth calculations, the staff has concluded that NMP1 can be operated safely for the next cycle without repair to weld 32-WD-050, because the structural integrity of this weld will be maintained. The acceptability of operation beyond the next fuel cycle without repair to this weld will depend upon the results of the re-inspection during the next refueling outage that you committed to in your letter dated April 21, 1997.

The staff's safety evaluation is enclosed. If you have any questions, please call me at (301) 415-3049.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Darl S. Hood, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-220

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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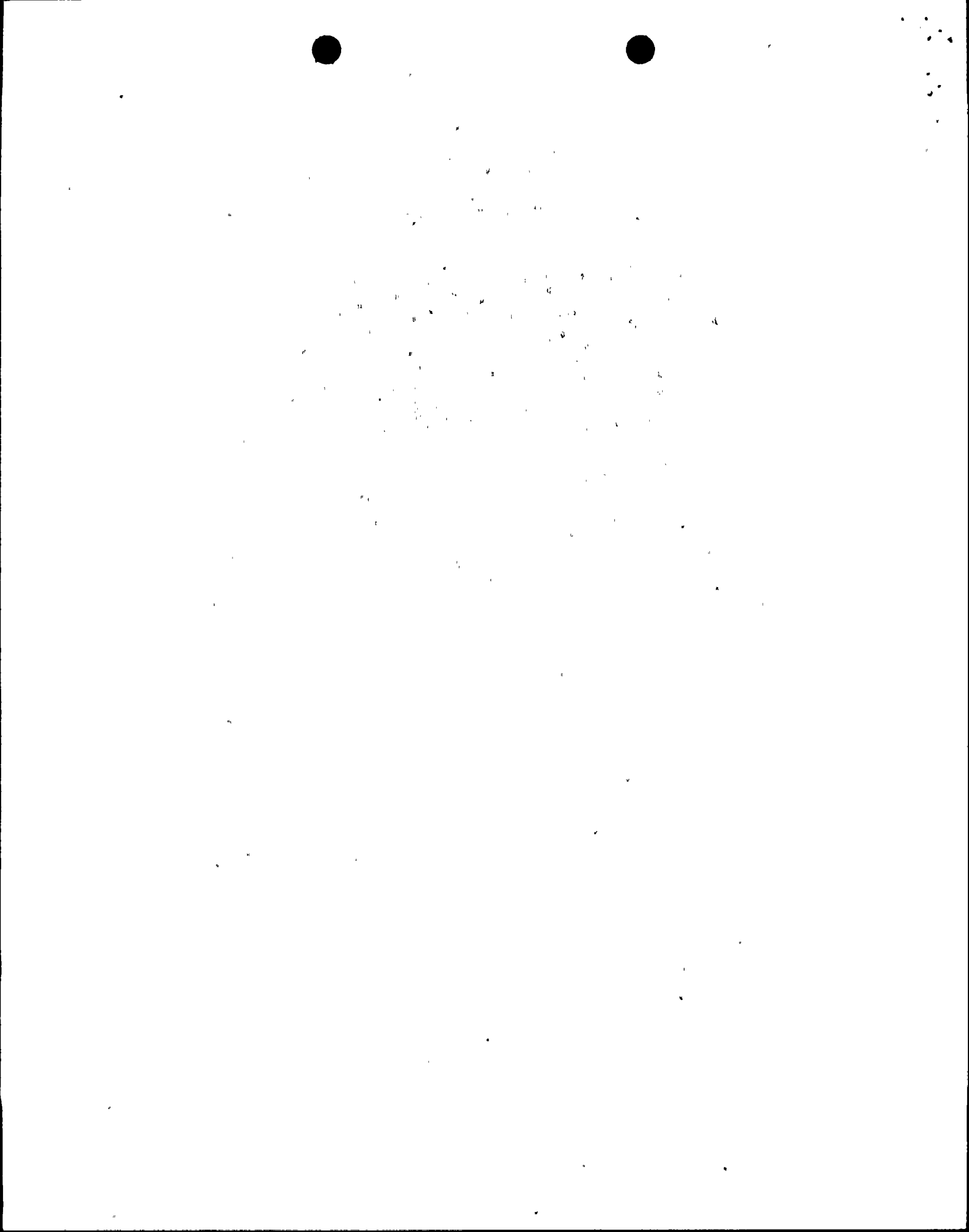
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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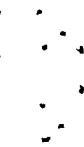
Sincerely,

Darl S. Hood, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-220

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page



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Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

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Unit No. 1

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