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50-410 Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Niagara Moha 05000410
AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
DOERFLEIN, L.T. Region 1 (Post 820201)
RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
MUELLER, J.H. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.

SUBJECT: Forwards insp repts 50-220/98-02 & 50-410/98-02 on 980215-980411 & notice of violation. Violations involve poor work order preparation for troubleshooting of unit 1 control room temp control valve which failed to identify plant impact.

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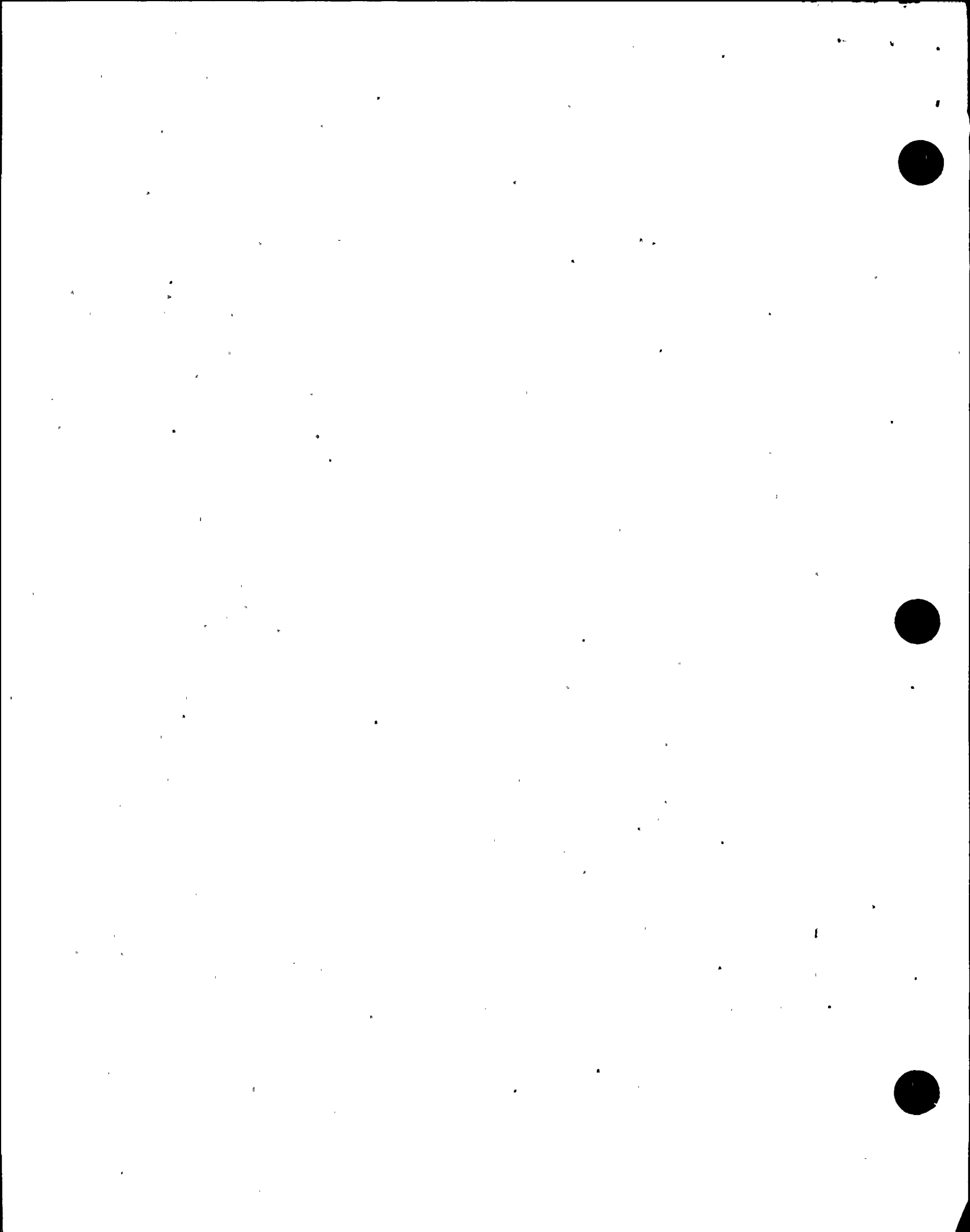
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May 27, 1998

EA No. 98-267

Mr. John H. Mueller
Chief Nuclear Officer
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Operations Building, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-220/98-02 AND
50-410/98-02 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Mueller:

This report transmits the findings of safety inspections conducted by NRC inspectors at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, from February 15 through April 11, 1998. Following the inspection, the findings were discussed with you, and members of your staff at an exit meeting on April 29, 1998.

During this period, your staff operated both units safely. The Unit 2 operators responded appropriately to the partial loss of offsite power, and the engineering support for the degraded condition of the Unit 1 control room emergency ventilation system was generally good. We noted that your staff continues to find instances where Technical Specification surveillance requirements have been overlooked and view this self-identification of testing deficiencies as positive.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that violations of NRC requirements occurred. These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding them are described in detail in the subject inspection report. Specifically, the violations involved: (1) the poor work order preparation for troubleshooting of the Unit 1 control room temperature control valve which failed to identify the plant impact this work would have on the ventilation system dampers, and subsequently caused the system to become inoperable; and (2) the inadequate design and testing controls for the Unit 1 control room emergency ventilation system.

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You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

The apparent violation of Unit 2 Technical Specifications for a licensed operator leaving the "at-the-controls" area of the control room, as reported in Licensee Event Report 98-02, remains under NRC staff review. Any further questions or actions pertaining to this issue will be communicated via separate correspondence

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Lawrence T. Doerflein, Chief
Projects Branch 1
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-220, 50-410
License Nos. DPR-63, NPF-69

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report Nos. 50-220/98-02 and 50-410/98-02

cc w/enclosures:

G. Wilson, Senior Attorney
M. Wetterhahn, Winston and Strawn
J. Rettberg, New York State Electric and Gas Corporation
P. Eddy, Electric Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York
C. Donaldson, Esquire, Assistant Attorney General, New York Department of Law
J. Vinqvist, MATS, Inc.
F. Valentino, President, New York State Energy Research
and Development Authority
J. Spath, Program Director, New York State Energy Research
and Development Authority



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