

# CATEGORY 1

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SUBJECT: PNO-I-98-018, during scheduled insps of Nine Mile Point, Unit 2 core shroud indications of cracking identified in portions of three horizontal welds. Unit currently in refueling outage w/expected restart date of 980624.

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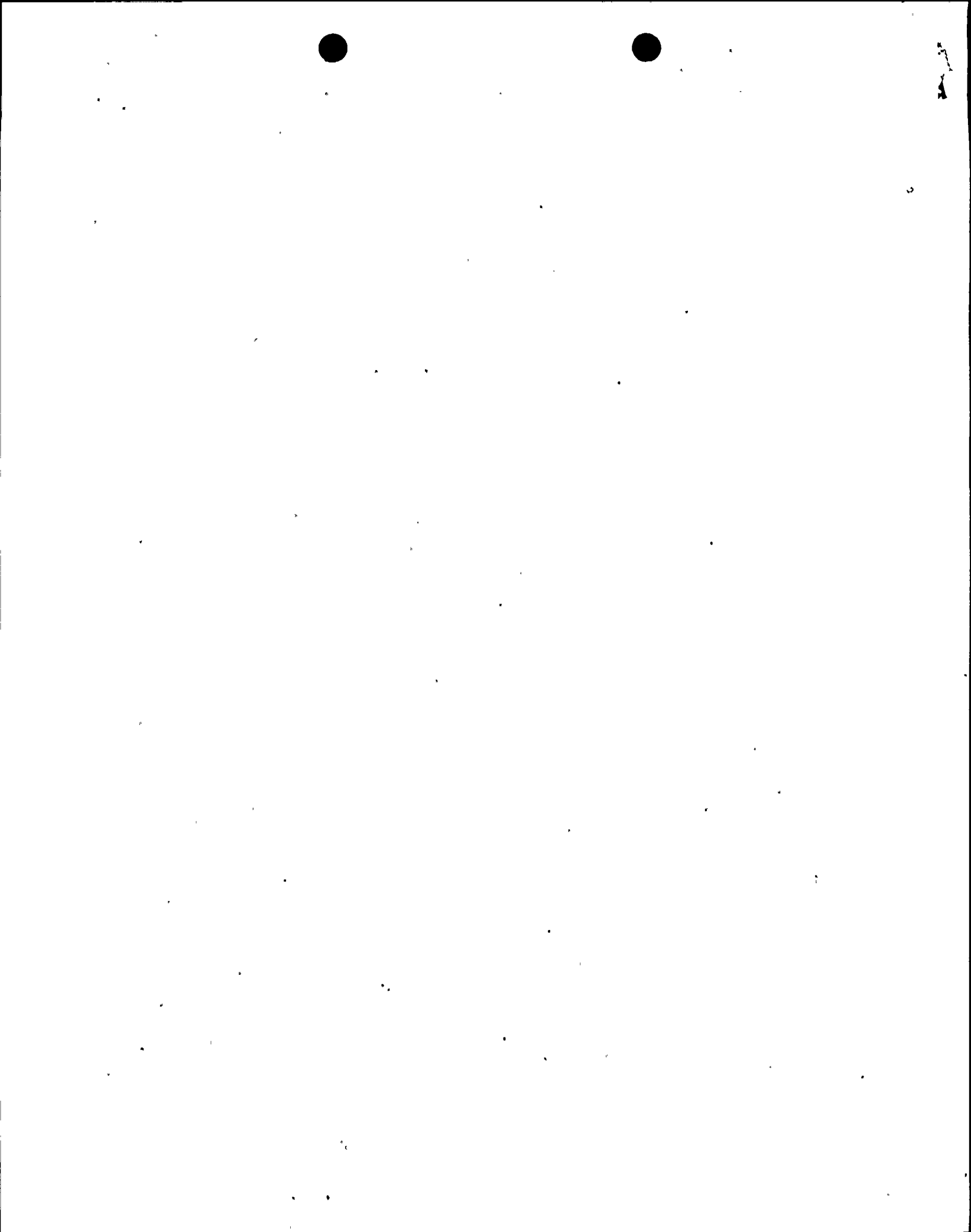
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June 2, 1998

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-98-018

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 Region I staff in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania on this date.

Facility

Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.  
Nine Mile Point 2  
Lycoming, New York  
Dockets: 50-410

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event  
Alert  
Site Area Emergency  
General Emergency  
X Not Applicable

Subject: CORE SHROUD INSPECTION - MEDIA ATTENTION

During scheduled inspections of the Nine Mile Point Unit 2 core shroud, indications of cracking were identified in portions of three horizontal welds. The depth of the indications varies between 0.25 and 0.65 inches. The core shroud is two inches thick. As a result of these findings, the licensee expanded the scope of the inspections to include all horizontal welds and several vertical welds. Based on the inspection results thus far, the licensee has determined the core shroud remains structurally sound and that no repairs are expected to be necessary before the unit is returned to service. Unit 2 is currently in a refueling outage with an expected restart date of June 24, 1998.

During the 1997 Unit 1 outage, cracks identified in the Unit 1 core shroud were the subject of significant public and media interest. A public meeting was held in the local area regarding the core shroud cracks prior to the unit restart from the refueling outage in May 1997. The licensee has issued a press release regarding the Unit 2 core shroud inspections, and Region I has responded to some media inquiries. The resident inspectors are following the outage activities and monitoring licensee actions.

The State of New York has been informed.

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