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 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 CRUTCHFIELD, D. Operating Reactors Branch 5

SUBJECT: Responds to NRC 791023 request. Forwards revised util 791214 commitments re containment purging.

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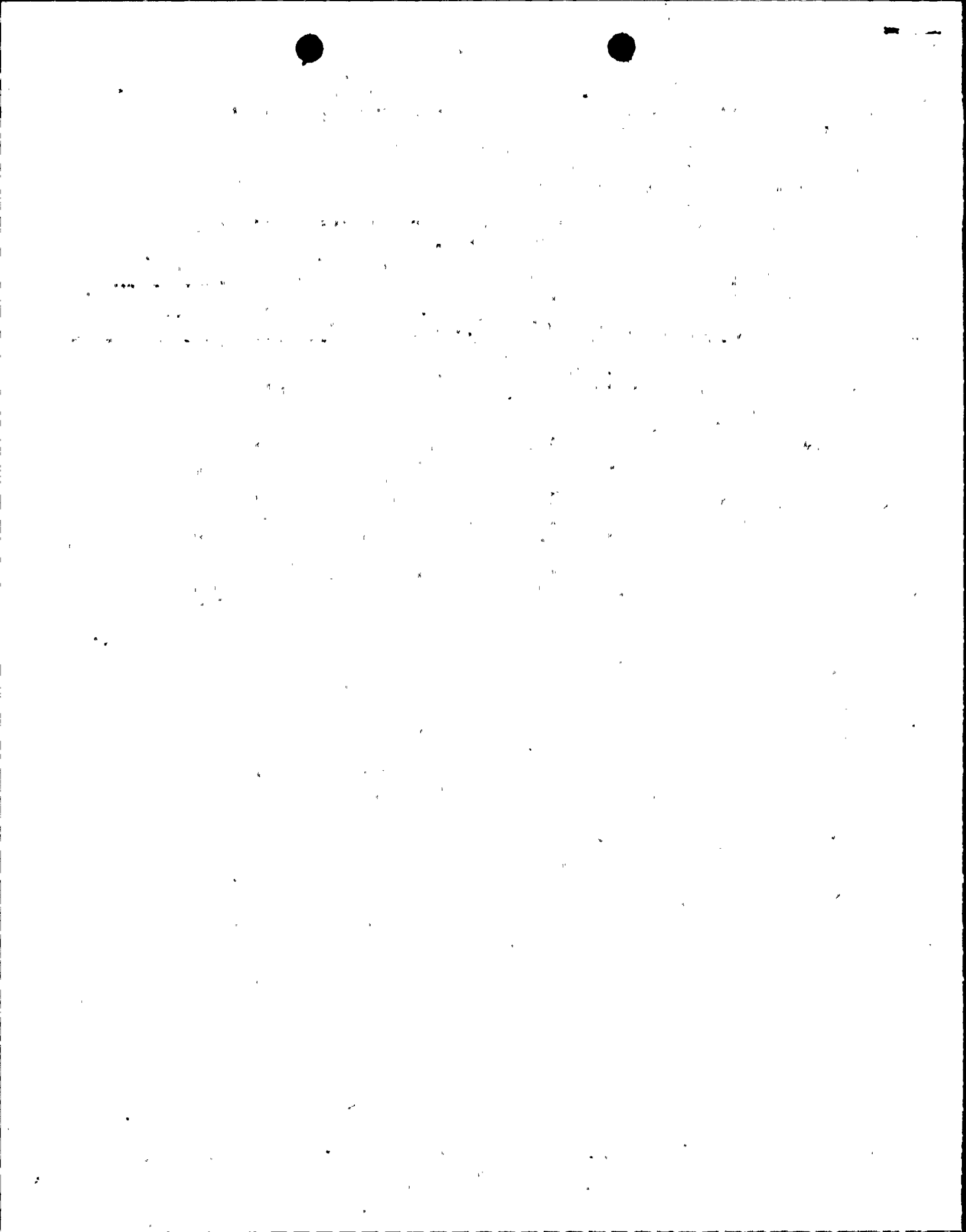
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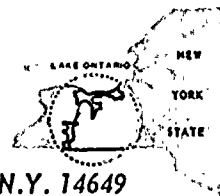
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LEON D. WHITE, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT

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May 29, 1980

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attention: Mr. Dennis M. Crutchfield, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch No. 5  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Containment Purging During Normal Plant Operations  
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant  
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Crutchfield:

Your letter of October 23, 1979 requested that Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E) commit to an interim position on containment purging. As a guideline, the Staff's interim position was enclosed. Our letter of December 14, 1979 presented RG&E's commitments based on the Staff's guidelines. Following Staff review of those commitments, we were requested to revise our commitments by members of the Staff.

Accordingly, the following commitments are provided using the paragraph numbering of the October 23, letter.

1. Whenever the containment integrity is required, emphasis will be placed on operating the containment in a passive mode as much as possible and on limiting all purging and venting times to as low as achievable. To justify venting or purging, there must be an established need to improve working conditions to perform a safety related surveillance, safety related maintenance procedure, or inspections required to facilitate design or installation of safety related modifications. (Examples of improving working conditions would include reducing temperature, humidity, and airborne activity sufficiently to permit efficient performance or to significantly reduce occupational radiation exposures.) This commitment supersedes our prior 90 hour per year purge limit.

It should be noted that considerable judgment may be required in some instances to balance the goal of maintaining purging to as low as achievable and the goal of maintaining occupation radiation exposures as low as reasonably achievable. Further, judgment may be required in evaluating the need for purge while at hot shut-

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DATE May 29, 1980

TO Mr. Dennis M. Crutchfield

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down while performing cleanup following an outage when such cleanup is required for safe operation of the plant.

- 2a. Commitment number 2.a. is not revised. The mechanical stops which limit purge valve opening were installed in December 1979.
- 2b. Commitment number 2.b. is not revised. As discussed with your Staff, our commitment 2.b. meets your interim position.

Very truly yours,



L. D. White, Jr.

