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 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION  
 WHITE, L.D. ROCHESTER GAS & ELEC  
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 ZIEMANN, D.L. \*\*\*OPERATING REACTORS BRANCH 2

DOCKET #  
 05000244

SUBJECT: Ack receipt of NRC 781129 ltr re containment purging during normal plant operations. Plans to justify limiting purging, re electrical bypasses & overrides, by 790702.

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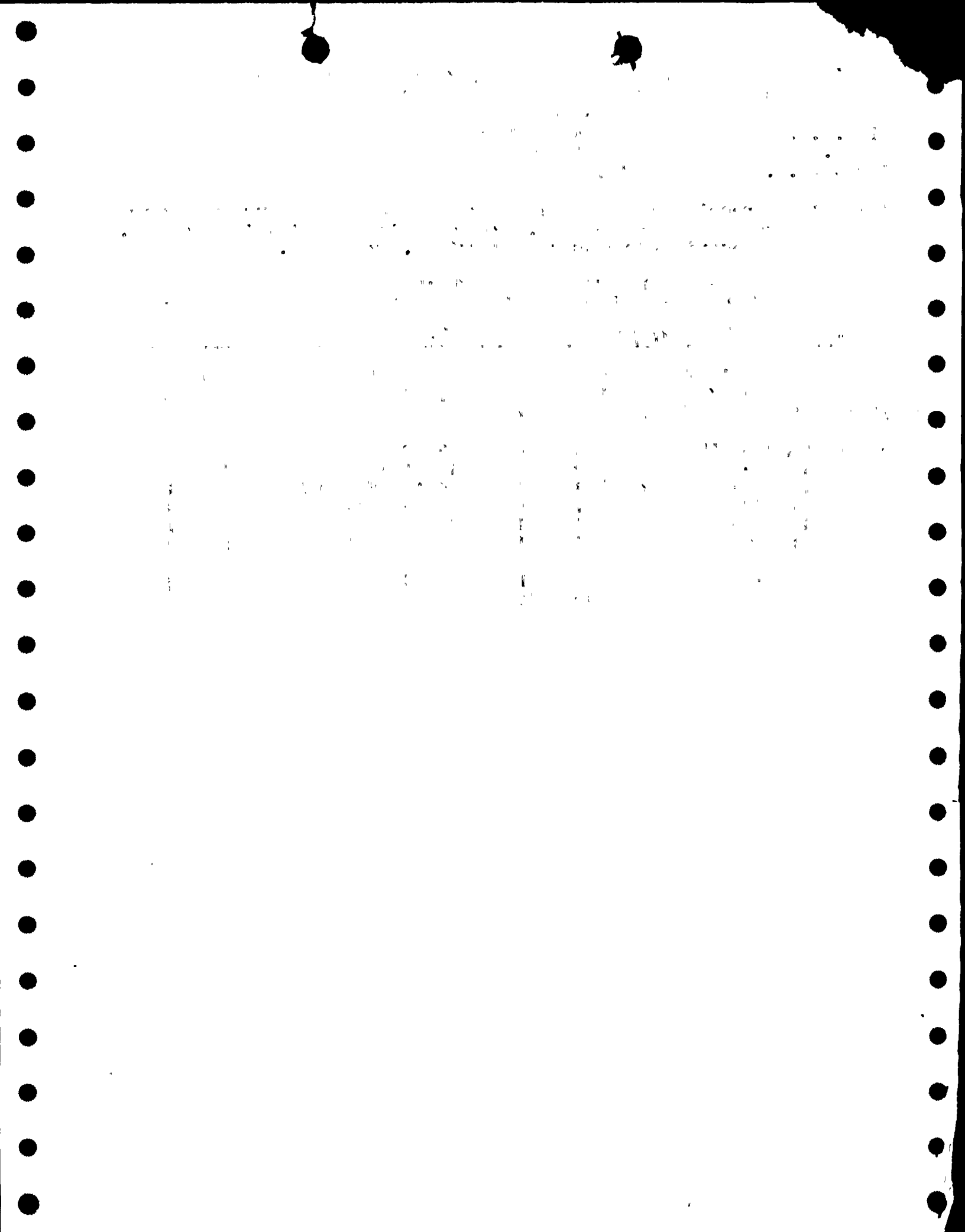
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LEON D. WHITE, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE  
AREA CODE 716 546-2700

January 2, 1979

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attention: Mr. Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch No. 2  
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. Ziemann:

This letter is in response to your letter dated November 29, 1978 which was received on December 1, 1978 regarding electrical bypasses and overrides in the containment purge system.

It is our plan to justify limiting purging outlined in option 2 of your letter. Our evaluation for justifying continuation of limited purging during power operation should be completed by July 2, 1979. Pending completion of the NRC staff review of that evaluation the R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant will limit purging to 90 hours per year while the reactor is critical or operating as defined in the R. E. Ginna Technical Specifications. No time restrictions need be placed on purging at shutdown conditions. It should be noted that limiting containment purging to 90 hr/yr result in increased personnel exposure during required Technical Specification surveillances.

A review of the containment ventilation isolation system has been made. The containment ventilation isolation system consists of the four containment purge valves, two containment depressurization valves and two radiation monitor valves. If open, these valves will automatically close on a Safety Injection (SI) signal or on high containment activity. If the containment ventilation isolation system reset is activated while a high containment activity signal or SI signal is present these eight valves could be opened and the automatic closure of these valves is blocked until the reset is deactivated. The reset is deactivated when both the SI signal and the high containment activity signals are cleared.

The purpose of the reset on the containment ventilation isolation system is to allow purging of containment in order to limit

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DATE January 2, 1979  
TO Mr. Dennis L. Ziemann

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potential hydrogen concentration buildup following a postulated LOCA when high containment activity and SI signals could be present.

Procedures associated with the activation of the containment ventilation isolation system reset have been modified to alert the operator that activating the reset blocks automatic closure of the eight valves on an SI signal. If a high containment activity alarm is present the reset should not be used until the high containment activity alarm has been cleared unless SI has occurred.

A review of all remaining safety actuation signal circuits which incorporate a manual override feature is in progress. This review should be completed by mid February 1979. Until this review is complete the use of bypasses on unreviewed circuitry will be minimized to the maximum extent possible. It may, however, be necessary in certain instances to employ overrides or resets in order to perform certain necessary operations such as instrument tests or equipment maintenance.

Very truly yours,



L. D. White, Jr.

