

June 23, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: FILE

FROM: Steven D. Bloom, Project Manager, Section 2 /RA/  
Project Directorate IV and Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: CLOSEOUT OF WCAP-14219-P, REVISION 1 AND WCAP-14432-NP,  
"RV CLOSURE HEAD PENETRATION - SUPPLEMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT OF NRC SER ISSUES" (TAC NO. M94337)

This memorandum is written to close out the NRC review of WCAP-14219-P, Revision 1 and WCAP-14432-NP, "RV Closure Head Penetration - Supplemental Assessment of NRC SER Issues," submitted by letter dated October 27, 1995, by Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) on behalf of the Westinghouse Electric Company. The WCAPs summarize some of the hot cracking that had occurred in a control rod drive mechanism (CRDM) nozzle weld at the Ringhals Station. The reports also summarized what the effect would be on the residual stresses in the nozzle if the nozzle was bent back to a 90 degree offset from the horizontal plane for the vessel head.

Since the time of the submittal, the NRC has issued Generic Letter (GL) 97-01, "Degradation of Control Rod Drive Mechanism Nozzle and Other Vessel Closure Head Penetrations," to address primary water stress-corrosion cracking (PWSCC) of CRDM nozzles in United States pressurized water reactors (PWRs). However, when the NRC resolved GL 97-01, the approach taken by management was that the NRC was not going to take issue with the technical details of the inputs to the CRDM cracking models proposed by the industry vendors for domestic CRDM nozzles. The letter dated October 27, 1995, by NEI was addressed to Dr. Brian Sheron, and stated that the WCAPs were submitted "For Information Only." Therefore, NEI did not expect the NRC to respond to these WCAPs, and the closeout letter to NEI dated March 23, 1999, on GL 97-01 is sufficient basis for closing out the review of the WCAPs and TAC No. M94337.

Project No. 694

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