

October 16, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jack R. Strosnider, Director  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: William H. Bateman, Chief */ra*  
Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT FOR THE 2001 ASME PRESSURE  
VESSEL AND PIPING CONFERENCE

Syed A. Ali has prepared an abstract for a paper that will be entitled, "Regulatory Perspectives Involving Risk-informed Inservice Inspection of Piping," which was requested for presentation at the NRC/ASME Symposium on Section XI being held in conjunction with the 2001 ASME Pressure Vessel and Piping Conference. The paper will be co-authored by Edmund Sullivan. Syed Ali will attend the meeting July 22-26, 2001, and will make the presentation. This memorandum is to request your approval of the abstract, which is attached.

Attachment: As stated

CONTACT: S. A. Ali, EMCB/DE  
415-2776

Approval: */ra/* 10/16/00  
Jack R. Strosnider

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DOCUMENT NAME: G:\EMCB\ALI\2001PVP abstract approval.wpd

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DATE	10/ 13 /00	10/ 13 /00	10 / 16 /00

# REGULATORY PERSPECTIVES ON RISK-INFORMED INSERVICE INSPECTION OF NUCLEAR PIPING<sup>1</sup>

Syed A. Ali<sup>2</sup>

Edmund Sullivan<sup>3</sup>

## ABSTRACT

For risk-informed inservice inspection (RI-ISI) of piping, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has approved two generally similar methodologies developed by EPRI and WOG, and discussed in Topical Reports EPRI TR-112657, Revision B-A, December 1999 and WCAP-14572, Revision 1-NP-A, February 1999, respectively. Each topical report was approved as a complete, integrated set of information collection, methodological manipulations, results generation, and results interpretation.

ASME has been working on three Code Cases for alternate examination requirements to ASME Section XI, Division 1 for piping welds. Code Case N-577 is based on the WOG methodology and Code Cases N-578 is based on the EPRI methodology. Code Case N-560 is based on the EPRI methodology but is limited to ASME Class 1 piping only.

For the RI-ISI programs submittals subsequent to the approval of the pilot plant programs and topical reports, but prior to the endorsement of ASME Code Cases, the licensees are currently utilizing the approved WOG or EPRI Topical Report as guidance for developing RI-ISI programs but need to seek relief from NRC to the current 50.55a requirements.

The paper will discuss the near term and long term regulatory plans for the implementation of RI-ISI programs and the procedure for relief from the current deterministic requirements of ISI of piping for licensees that intend to implement RI-ISI. The paper will also discuss lessons learned from the current staff reviews of RI-ISI programs.

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<sup>1</sup> Views expressed in this paper are those of the authors only and they do not represent the position of the agency.

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