

May 21, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Stuart A. Richards, Director  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Leonard N. Olshan, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate II */RA/*  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF APRIL 24, 2001, MEETING WITH ELECTRIC POWER  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO DISCUSS EXTENSION OF  
RISK-INFORMED INSERVICE INSPECTION METHODOLOGY

On April 24, 2001, the NRC staff met with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) to discuss (1) the extension of risk-informed inservice inspection (RI-ISI) methodology to preservice inspection and to break exclusion region (BER) piping, and (2) the change in EPRI's methodology to assess the potential for thermal stratification, cycling and striping (TASCS). Attached is a list of the attendees. The handout provided by EPRI is available under ADAMS accession ML011150182.

In 1999, the NRC approved the EPRI RI-ISI methodology for generic application to ISI of piping. EPRI submitted a report on February 28, 2001, that provided the details of the extension of the EPRI RI-ISI methodology to the aforementioned applications. During the meeting, which was a follow-up to an August 2000 meeting, the NRC and the industry continued dialogue on ongoing risk-based and performance-based applications, discussed the status of RI-ISI applications and the schedule for future activities.

NRC and EPRI agreed that the following issues need further consideration:

1. The template RI-ISI submittals should address more clearly the augmented ISI programs and the synergistic effects when multiple degradation mechanisms exist in a segment.
2. The template RI-ISI submittals should discuss the details of merging the RI-ISI with the existing ASME Section XI program when the RI-ISI program does not start at the beginning of the interval.
3. EPRI has suggested that changes proposed in the EPRI report for ISI of BER piping be implemented by using 10 CFR 50.59 evaluations since these requirements are typically defined in licensees' Updated Final Safety Analysis Reports. The NRC stated that it would consult with its Office of General Counsel to determine the feasibility of this approach.

4. Industry needs to clarify the criteria to be used for sample expansion when ISI reveals unacceptable flaws.
5. The NRC recommended that the industry evaluate alternatives to the 10 percent minimum inspection of ASME Class 1 butt welds which is being recommended by the staff in its review of the RI-ISI template submittals.
6. EPRI revised the TSCS criteria in its report to address NRC comments and submitted the revised criteria to the NRC on March 28, 2001.
7. The NRC and the industry needs to evaluate the application of RI-ISI methodology to preservice inspection.

Attachment: List of Attendees

cc w/att: See next page

4. Industry needs to clarify the criteria to be used for sample expansion when ISI reveals unacceptable flaws.
5. The NRC recommended that the industry evaluate alternatives to the 10 percent minimum inspection of ASME Class 1 butt welds which is being recommended by the staff in its review of the RI-ISI template submittals.
6. EPRI revised the TASCs criteria in its report to address NRC comments and submitted the revised criteria to the NRC on March 28, 2001.
7. The NRC and the industry needs to evaluate the application of RI-ISI methodology to preservice inspection.

Attachment: List of Attendees

cc w/att: See next page

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**Meeting Notice: ML010960038**

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LIST OF ATTENDEES

ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

MEETING TO DISCUSS RISK-INFORMED INSERVICE INSPECTION METHODOLOGY

APRIL 24, 2001

**NRC**

S. Ali  
J. Davis  
D. Harrison  
R. Li  
L. Olshan  
E. Sullivan

**EPRI**

P. O'Regan  
G. Vine

**OTHER**

B.Mays, TXU  
C. Boggess, Westinghouse  
E. McClain, Nine Mile Point  
J. Moody, J.H. Moody Consulting Inc.  
K. Hall, Energy Services  
C. Willbanks, Scientech  
R. Jaquith, Westinghouse