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October 24, 2001

Robinson Nuclear Plant



Agenda

- Introduction
- Background
- Analytical Basis for Qualification
- Future Inspections
- Closing Remarks



Introduction



Background

Key Design Parameters		
NSSS Designer	Westinghouse	
Head Fabricator	Combustion Engineering	
Nozzle Material Supplier	Huntington	
Number of Vessel Head Penetrations	69	
Design Diametrical Nozzle Interference Fit	0.0 – 3.0 mils	
Remaining EFPYs to Oconee 3	~3.0 EFPYs	



Background

- Qualified Examination of Vessel Head Penetrations (VHPs)
 - Completed April 2001 during Refueling Outage 20
 - Bare metal visual examination
 - ♦ VT-2 qualified inspectors
 - ▼ Inspectors briefed on Oconee leakage indicators
 - ♦ No evidence of VHP leakage



Background

Qualified Examination (continued)

- Analyses provide high confidence of leakage path to vessel head surface
 - Finite element analyses provide analytical basis for leakage path
 - Records provide strong assurance of manufacture and assembly of Robinson VHPs in accordance with design



- Two Vendor-Performed Finite Element Analyses of Robinson VHPs
 - Structural Integrity Associates, Inc.
 - Dominion Engineering, Inc.



- Structural Integrity Associates Analysis Concluded
 - Leakage path to vessel head surface exists for interference fits through 3 mils
 - 3 mils interference fit is the largest interference fit allowed by design



- Dominion Engineering Analysis Concluded
 - Leakage path to vessel head surface exists for interference fits through 2.75 mils
 - Based on the very low contact force near the surface over a short contact length, leakage would be likely for interference fits of greater than 2.75 through 3 mils



Design Range of Interference Fits

Design Range Maximum Design **Design Range** of Nozzle Sizes of Hole Sizes Interference Fit 0.003 3.997 4.000 3.998 0.002 3.999 0.001 3.997 0.002 3.999 3.998 0.001 3.999 0.000



- Robinson VHPs Constructed in Accordance with Design Requirements
 - Manufacturing/Inspection records
 - Controlled under vendor/licensee quality assurance program & ASME Section III, 1965
 - Documentation of rejection/rework of dimensionally incorrect material
 - Example
 - Detailed documentation of lower vessel penetration non-conformances



- Robinson VHPs Constructed in Accordance with Design Requirements (continued)
 - Assembly process records
 - Instructions to minimize interference fit
 - Match housings to penetrations for assurance of least possible interference fit

Limitations of shrinkage method

- Method could produce only ~ 4 mils shrinkage
- Method designed to assure ~ 3 mils gap for assembly
- Result given instructions to match housings to penetrations to minimize interference, interference fits likely clustered at or below 2 mils



- Robinson VHPs Constructed in Accordance with Design Requirements (continued)
 - Comparison with similar reactor vessel heads
 - Evaluation of 3 similar vintage reactor vessel heads (230 VHPs)
 - ▼ No undersized holes
 - Two additional later vintage reactor vessel heads (156 VHPs) with dimensions of nozzles and holes
 - ▼ Interference fits of 3 mils or less



Conclusion

- Qualified Examination of Vessel Head Penetrations was Performed
 - Visual examination (VT-2) with no identified leakage
 - Leakage path demonstrated through finite element analyses
 - Records support manufacture and assembly of Robinson VHPs in accordance with design



Future Inspections

• Refueling Outage 21 (October 2002)

- Qualified visual examination
- Non-destructive examination





Closing Remarks

