

From: Peter Tam
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Date: 4/30/02 11:02AM
Subject: Oyster Creek - Relief Request R17, Rev. 1 **(TAC MB2940)**

George, Dave, Paul:

Our reviewer, Timothy Steingass, has the following comments on your 9/14/01 submittal:

Page 5 of 6 says that you performed a VIPER code analysis for axial weld failure probability to assess the effect of fracture due to the 57% inspection coverage on the vessel axial welds. Your result was a 2.5E-12/year failure probability due to the 57% beltline examination coverage.

In reading the safety evaluation to the BWRVIP-05 report, Tim finds this to be substantially lower than the BWR fleet failure probability limit of 5E-6 per reactor-year to assure vessel integrity.

- (1) Were your calculations based on 114 degrees F or 70 degrees F mean RTNDT ?
- 2) Why is your Vessel Failure Probability six times an order of magnitude lower than the BWR fleet?
- 3) What are your values for Conditional Failure Probability and Low Temperature Overpressure Frequency?

These comments are provided to prepare you for a phone call. This e-mail does not formally request additional information, and does not convey a formal NRC staff position. Disposition of these comments will be discussed in the phone call.

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