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July 1, 2002

Mr. Michael L. Marshall, Jr. Project Manager Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Mail Stop O9-H6 U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: Technical Basis Documents for Reactor Pressure Vessel Inspection Plan

PROJECT NUMBER: 689

Dear Mr. Marshall:

At a May 22, 2002, meeting, representatives of the Materials Reliability Program (MRP) Alloy 600 Issue Task Group presented the proposed *Inspection Plan for PWR Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) Head Penetrations (Rev 0 5/17/02)*. The supporting technical basis for the inspection plan was discussed but not shared since the bases were not yet finalized. During the meeting, the NRC staff requested additional information and an opportunity to review the bases documents. We have enclosed the following documents:

- Technical Basis for RPV Upper Head Penetration Inspection Plan, by Peter C. Riccardella and Nathaniel G. Cofie, Prepared for EPRI's MRP PWR Alloy 600 Assessment Committee, June 2002
- Probability of Detecting Leaks in RPV Upper Head Nozzles by Visual Inspections, by Steve Hunt and Mark Fleming, Prepared for EPRI's MRP PWR Alloy 600 Assessment Committee, June 2002

At the July 24, 2002, meeting, the MRP will discuss a revised inspection plan based on the enclosed bases documents and insights gained from the May meeting. We will provide to you the revised inspection plan prior to the meeting.

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 739-8080, am@nei.org, or Kurt Cozens at (202) 739-8085, koc@nei.org.

Sincerely,

Alexander Marion

Alex Marion

KOC/maa Enclosures

 $Mr.\ William\ H.\ Bateman,\ U.\ S.\ Nuclear\ Regulatory\ Commission$

Dr. Brian W. Sheron, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Mr. Charles A. Casto, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission