

October 26, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: NRR Project Directors

THRU: Elinor G. Adensam, Director /RA/
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management

FROM: Jacob I. Zimmerman, Project Manager /RA/
Component Integrity Section
Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch
Division of Engineering Analysis

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF STAFF REVIEWS OF SELECTED MODERATE AND
LOW SUSCEPTIBILITY RANKED PLANT RESPONSES TO BULLETIN
2001-01, "CIRCUMFERENTIAL CRACKING OF REACTOR PRESSURE
VESSEL HEAD PENETRATION NOZZLES"

On August 3, 2001, the staff issued Bulletin 2001-01, "Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles," to the industry requesting that addressees provide information related to the structural integrity of the reactor pressure vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles for their respective facilities, including the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking that has been found to date, the inspections and repairs that have been undertaken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, and the basis for concluding that their plans for future inspections will ensure compliance with applicable regulatory requirements at their respective pressurized water reactor (PWR) designed plants. With respect to the issuance of the Bulletin, the staff required the addressees to submit an initial response within 30 days of issuance.

The staff has completed its initial review of Bulletin 2001-01 licensee responses for a majority of the moderate and low susceptibility plants. To complete the review, a closeout letter will be sent to each licensee. The staff is issuing the closeout letters using two generic attachments. Note that project managers (PMs) will need to insert certain licensee-specific information.

Attachment 1 provides a closeout letter for moderately susceptible plants with Bulletin responses that the staff determined were consistent with the requests of Bulletin 2001-01. It is requested that the PMs for the following plants complete and send the Attachment 1 letter:

- ▶ Beaver Valley, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Calvert Cliffs, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Farley, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Kewaunee
- ▶ Prairie Island, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Salem, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Turkey Point, Units 3 & 4

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(301) 415-2426

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Moderately susceptible plants that are not listed above require further staff assessment of their future inspection plans. The staff is pursuing additional information from these licensees.

Attachment 2 provides a closeout letter for low susceptibility plants with responses that the staff determined were consistent with the requests of Bulletin 2001-01. It is requested that the PMs for the following plants complete and send the Attachment 2 letter:

- ▶ Braidwood, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Byron, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Callaway
- ▶ Catawba, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Comanche Peak, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ McGuire, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Millstone, Unit 3
- ▶ Palisades
- ▶ Seabrook, Unit 1
- ▶ Sequoyah, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Shearon Harris, Unit 1
- ▶ South Texas Project, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Summer
- ▶ Vogtle Units, 1 & 2
- ▶ Watts Bar, Unit 1
- ▶ Wolf Creek, Unit 1

If, for any reason, substantive changes are proposed to the closeout letter, the lead PM should be added to concurrence.

It is also requested that the PMs enter the appropriate information regarding completion of this licensing activity in WISP.

Attachments: As stated

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- ▶ Braidwood, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Byron, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Callaway
- ▶ Catawba, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Comanche Peak, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ McGuire, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Millstone, Unit 3
- ▶ Palisades
- ▶ Seabrook, Unit 1
- ▶ Sequoyah, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Shearon Harris, Unit 1
- ▶ South Texas Project, Units 1 & 2
- ▶ Summer
- ▶ Vogtle Units, 1 & 2
- ▶ Watts Bar, Unit 1
- ▶ Wolf Creek, Unit 1

If, for any reason, substantive changes are proposed to the closeout letter, the lead PM should be added to concurrence.

It is also requested that the PMs enter the appropriate information regarding completion of this licensing activity in WISP.

Attachments: As stated

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DOCUMENT NAME: G:\PDI-2\VHP Bulletin\closeout low and some moderate.wpd

ACCESSION NO. ML012830262 NRR-106

OFFICE	PDI-1/PM	PDI-2/LA	EMCB/BC	PDI/PD
NAME	LBurkhart	TClark	WBateman	EAdensam
DATE	10/22/01	10/22/01	10/23/01	10/24/01

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**Licensing Contact
Utility
Address**

SUBJECT: BULLETIN 2001-01, "CIRCUMFERENTIAL CRACKING OF REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD PENETRATION NOZZLES," RESPONSES FOR PLANT(S) [FILL IN THE APPLICABLE UNIT(S)]

Dear *Mr.* :

On August 3, 2001, the staff issued Bulletin 2001-01, "Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles," to the industry requesting that addressees provide information related to the structural integrity of the reactor pressure vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles for their respective facilities, including the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking that has been found to date, the inspections and repairs that have been undertaken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, and the basis for concluding that their plans for future inspections will ensure compliance with applicable regulatory requirements at their respective pressurized water reactor (PWR) plants. You were requested to respond to Items 1 and 4 of the Bulletin within 30 days of its issuance.

You provided your response by letter[s] dated *[fill in date]*. The staff finds that you have provided the requested information and there is reasonable assurance that the public health and safety will be maintained. Your proposed inspection scope and schedule described in your response[s], which included the description of your plan to examine "all" or "100%" of the VHPs at your facility during the next scheduled outage, were integral to the staff's finding. It is the staff's expectation that you will submit a revised response to the Bulletin if you make any substantive changes to the schedule and/or scope of future inspections for your plant[s]. If warranted by such changes, the staff will reevaluate this issue for *[fill in plants names]*.

Addressees are reminded that Item 5 of the Bulletin requested the following information within 30 days after plant restart following the next refueling outage:

- a. a description of the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking detected at your plant, including the number, location, size, and nature of each crack detected;
- b. if cracking is identified, a description of the inspections (type, scope, qualification requirements, and acceptance criteria), repairs, and other corrective actions you have taken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements. This information is requested only if there are any changes from prior information submitted in accordance with this bulletin.

Sincerely,

[your name], Project Manager, Section ***[fill in Section No.]***
Project Directorate ***[fill PD number]***
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment 1

DISTRIBUTION:

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EMCB R/F	JZimmerman	Region Contact, DRP	JCollins
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**Licensing Contact
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You provided your response by letter dated *[fill in date]*. The staff finds that you have provided the requested information and that, based on this information, there is reasonable assurance that the public health and safety will be maintained.

Addressees are reminded that Item 5 of the bulletin requested the following information within 30 days after plant restart following the next refueling outage:

- a. a description of the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking detected at your plant, including the number, location, size, and nature of each crack detected;
- b. if cracking is identified, a description of the inspections (type, scope, qualification requirements, and acceptance criteria), repairs, and other corrective actions you have taken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements. This information is requested only if there are any changes from prior information submitted in accordance with this bulletin.

Sincerely,

***[your name]*, Project Manager, Section *[fill in Section No.]*
Project Directorate *[fill PD number]*
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation**

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