

From: Michael Marshall
To: internet: am@nei.org
Date: 9/13/02 10:37AM
Subject: Response to Request for Questions

Earlier this week, during telephone conversations with Mr. Richard Barrett, you requested a list of questions that the staff may have regarding the use of PFM to better prepare for the upcoming public meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2002 in Rockville, Maryland. Listed below are the staff questions to assist with your meeting preparation.

The primary purpose of asking the questions listed below is to gain a better understanding on how the model was "tuned" to "real-word experience" and the basis for concluding that the results are "bounding" for PWRs.

1. Provide a more detailed description (than past overview presentations) of the logical structure of the model.
2. Exactly what are the numerical "experience" values and model outputs that Mr. Riccardella matched to perform the tuning and Mr. Riccardella 's criteria for deciding that the model is "tuned."
3. Was any other parameter, in addition to the correlation coefficient between axial and circumferential crack growth rates, manipulated to achieve the tuning?
4. What is the rationale for concluding that the results of the "tuned" model bound the actual risk?
5. Additional or alternative "experience" data that can be used for tuning purposes and the results of alternative tuning.
6. The degree to which the model can simultaneously match multiple "experience" data without re-tuning for each comparison.
7. As a result of conversations between Mr. Riccardella and Mr. Wilkowski, were the methods for calculating residual stress magnitudes adjusted or verified?

If you require additional assistance, please, contact the responsible project manager, Mr. Joe Birmingham at jl4@nrc.gov or 301-415-2829.

Cordially,
Michael Marshall

Phone: 301-415-2734
Fax: 301-415-2444

CC: Birmingham, Joe; Cozens, Kurt; King, Christine