

December 13, 2002

Mr. Alexander Marion, Director - Engineering
Nuclear Energy Institute
Suite 400
1776 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3708

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD PENETRATION
MATERIAL HEAT INFORMATION

As a result of recent operating experience with Alloy 600 and reactor pressure vessel (RPV) head penetration cracking, the NRC staff has begun the development of a RPV head inspection results database to facilitate a more systematic assessment of cracking and degradation in RPV heads and vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles. The NRC staff intends to include material heat information for each pressurized water reactor in the database, because material heat may be an important factor when evaluating the inspection results.

As part of their integrated response to Generic Letter 1997-01, in July 1997, the B&W Owners Group identified the heat and material supplier for each Babcock and Wilcox (B&W) PWR vessel head. It is our understanding that the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and/or Electric Power Research Institute's Material Reliability Program (MRP) has assembled similar heat information for Westinghouse and Combustion Engineering PWRs. If this information has been compiled, the staff would like to receive a copy of any report(s) or data file(s) documenting this information.

I appreciate your assistance. If you have any questions about this request, please, contact Dr. Allen Hiser at 301-415-1034 or Mr. Michael Marshall at 301-415-2734.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard Barrett, Director
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 689

cc: Larry Mathews, Southern Company
Kurt Cozens, NEI
Christine King, EPRI

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