

December 16, 2002

Carl Terry, BWRVIP Chairman
Niagara Mohawk Power Company
Post Office Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: NRC Staff Review of BWRVIP-86-A, "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Updated BWR Integrated Surveillance Program (ISP) Implementation Plan"

Dear Mr. Terry:

By letter dated November 12, 2002, the Boiling Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP) submitted Proprietary Report BWRVIP-86-A, "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Updated BWR Integrated Surveillance Program (ISP) Implementation Plan," for information and NRC staff review. The BWRVIP-86-A report represents a compilation of information from several sources: Proprietary Report TR-114228, "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, BWR Integrated Surveillance Program Plan (BWRVIP-78)," Proprietary Report BWRVIP-86, "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, BWR Integrated Surveillance Program Implementation Plan," BWRVIP responses (dated December 22, 2000, and May 30, 2001) to NRC staff requests for additional information (RAIs) regarding BWRVIP-78 and BWRVIP-86, and the NRC staff's safety evaluation (SE), issued on February 1, 2002, which approved the BWRVIP ISP.

The NRC staff has reviewed the information in BWRVIP-86-A and has found that it accurately incorporates all of the relevant information which was submitted by the BWRVIP in the documents noted above to support NRC staff approval of the BWRVIP ISP. Further, the staff finds that Appendix B to BWRVIP-86-A is a faithful reproduction of the NRC staff's February 1, 2002, SE, the inclusion of which is consistent with NRC staff expectations regarding an "-A" topical report. BWR licensees who wish to reference in their facility's final safety assessment report (FSAR) or facility Technical Specifications the documentation which supports their adoption of the BWRVIP ISP may, therefore, reference BWRVIP-86-A in lieu of referencing the separate source documents noted in the paragraph above.

The NRC staff's only comment regarding the BWRVIP-86-A report is to suggest that you consider, when a future revision of the report becomes necessary, adding a statement to Section 5.4, "Plan for Ongoing Vessel Dosimetry," which notes that future BWR RPV fluence calculations should be performed using a fluence methodology which is acceptable to the NRC staff and consistent with the guidance found in NRC Regulatory Guide 1.190, "Calculational Methods for Determining Pressure Vessel Neutron Fluence." In the current revision of BWRVIP-86-A, the NRC staff finds that the topic of what is expected regarding future BWR RPV fluence calculations is adequately addressed in Appendix B (the reproduction of the NRC staff's SE). Our comment regarding Section 5.4 is only intended to support overall consistency between the body of the report and the NRC staff's SE.

Carl Terry

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Please contact Matthew A. Mitchell of my staff at (301) 415-3303 if you have any further questions regarding this subject.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William H. Bateman, Chief
Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: As stated

cc: See next page

Carl Terry

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Please contact Matthew A. Mitchell of my staff at (301) 415-3303 if you have any further questions regarding this subject.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William H. Bateman, Chief
Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: As stated

cc: See next page

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