

February 13, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Charles E. Ader, Chairman **/RA/**
Committee To Review Generic Requirements

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW GENERIC
REQUIREMENTS MEETING NUMBER 379

The Committee To Review Generic Requirements (CRGR) held special Meeting No. 379 on January 28, 2003, from 1:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M., with the attendees listed in Attachment 1. The purpose of this meeting was to review the proposed, "Orders to Impose RPV Head and VHPs Inspection Requirements," (ADAMS Accession No. ML030240195). The slide presentation is found in ADAMS, Accession No. ML030290147.

Mr. Michael Marshall and Mr. Steven Bloom, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, briefed the CRGR on the proposed, "Orders to Impose RPV Head and VHPs Inspection Requirements."

The proposed order is intended to codify the inspections delineated in Bulletin 2002-02, with some modifications based on the results of the inspections that were conducted by the licensees in the Fall of 2002. The staff believes that the operational experience of the cracking of CRDM nozzles and vessel head erosion of the Davis Besse vessel head demonstrates that the requirements of CFR 50.55a with regard to inspections are not adequate to provide reasonable assurance of adequate protection of public health and safety with reference to the integrity of the reactor coolant pressure boundary.

Because of the time required to conduct rulemaking to codify appropriate inspection requirements into 10 CFR 50.55a, it is believed that the issuance of orders as an interim requirement is appropriate to insure that the inspections which are outlined in Bulletin 2002-02 be accomplished until 10 CFR 50.55a can be modified. The order is the fourth item brought before the CRGR addressing this issue (See CRGR #364, Bulletin 2001-01, ADAMS ML011920321, CRGR #368, Bulletin 2002-01, ADAMS ML021130259 and CRGR #375, Bulletin 2002-02, ADAMS ML022330241).

The CRGR had a number of comments and questions on the proposed package. One of the major concerns that was raised by the CRGR members was that the order does not clearly articulate the basis for the staff's determination that the orders are necessary to provide reasonable assurance of adequate protection. Furthermore, the order does not clearly define and set forth how the implementation of the order would achieve the expected adequate protection. The staff agreed with CRGR and agreed to revise the order to better articulate the staff's position on adequate protection as well as clarifying the language on implementation of the order and the expected results.

There were ten items and some minor editorial changes that the CRGR members raised and the staff agreed that they would address and either correct or modify the noted items. The following are the ten items:

- 1) Include additional background on basis of the current regulations to provide a better explanation on why new inspection requirements are needed.
- 2) Provide more substance in the adequate protection statement (see above). Related to this comment, it was noted that the two inspection options were inconsistent in that one option would manage CRDM penetration cracking by detecting cracks before they developed into leaks, while the other option would rely on leakage detection, at least for a portion of the area susceptible to cracking. It was suggested that these two different approaches should be explained in the context of compliance with existing regulatory requirements and the bases for adequate protection.
- 3) Clarify that the procedures staff will use to address requests for relief for specific nozzles will be those used for granting code relief requests.
- 4) Include language in the body of the order specifically addressing the schedule for implementation, period of time the orders will be in effect, and what relaxation is provided beyond the first outage for those licensees who have already addressed the Bulletin 2002-02 and have established commitments, approved by NRR, relating to the nature of the inspections to be performed.
- 5) Consult with OGC, and, if appropriate, modify the order to clarify whether responses are necessary from licensees who agree to implement the order in its entirety.
- 6) Clarify usage of the word, "appropriate" when addressing inspecting mechanical joint leakages. It was suggested to provide a performance based definition. It was also suggested that consideration be given to adding a characterization of the performance expectation of each of the inspection requirements.
- 7) Include in the text that the present experience indicates that there are uncertainties surrounding susceptibility ranking and how the required inspections would help address this issue.
- 8) It was suggested that acceptance criteria for the inspections be included in the order. In this regard, it was noted that a regulatory and enforcement history exists that establishes ASME Section XI flaw acceptance criteria as applicable for flaws detected throughout the service life of the plant and that additional guidance on flaw evaluations had been previously provided in correspondence with both industry and ASME.
- 9) It was suggested that the Regional Administrators make calls and communicate with the licensees on the issues.
- 10) It was suggested to revise the requirement for inspection intervals to limit the time span allowed between outages without an inspection. A recommendation was made for every third refueling outage or five years, whichever comes first. A combination of various types of inspection could be considered. For example, for low susceptibility plants, accomplish a visual inspection every three years and an inspection under the vessel head every six years.

Due to the expeditious nature of the document under review, CRGR and the staff agreed to review the staff's resolution of the CRGR's concerns through e-mail rather than another formal meeting.

Subsequent to this CRGR meeting, the staff provided the Committee with revisions that satisfactorily addressed the CRGR concerns (ML030420235 and ML030420260).

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| OFFICE | CRGR | | CRGR | | | | | |
| NAME | L. Cupidon | | C. Ader | | | | | |
| DATE | 2/13/03 | | 2/13/03 | | | | | |

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MEMO DATED: 2/13/03

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW GENERIC REQUIREMENTS
MEETING NUMBER 379

| cc w/atts: | <u>Mail Stop</u> |
|--|------------------|
| Chairman Meserve | O-16 C1 |
| Commissioner Dicus | O-16 C1 |
| Commissioner Diaz | O-16 C1 |
| Commissioner McGaffigan | O-16 C1 |
| Commissioner Merrifield | O-16 C1 |
| Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary of the Commission | O-16 C1 |
| William F. Kane, DEDR | O-16 E15 |
| Carl J. Paperiello, DEDMRS | O-16 E15 |
| Frank J. Congel, OE | O-14 E1 |
| Hubert T. Bell, OIG | T-5 D28 |
| Karen D. Cyr, OGC | |
| Janice E. Moore, OGC | O-15 D21 |
| John T. Larkins, ACRS | T-2 E26 |
| Martin J. Virgilio, NMSS | T-8 A23 |
| Margaret V. Federline, NMSS | |
| E. William Brach, NMSS | O-13 D13 |
| M. Wayne Hodges, NMSS/SFPO | O-13 D13 |
| Samuel J. Collins, NRR | |
| Brian W. Sheron, NRR | O-5 E7 |
| Gary Holahan, NRR | O-10 A1 |
| Ashok C. Thadani, RES | |
| Jack Strosnider, RES | T-10 F12 |
| R. William Borchardt, NRR | O-5 E7 |
| W. Beecher, OPA | O-2 A13 |
| S. Bloom | |
| W. Reckley | |
| T. Marsh | |
| A. Mendiola | |
| A. Hiser | |
| M. Marshall | |
| H. Miller, Region I | |
| B. Mallett, RII | |
| L. Reyes, Region II | |
| J. Dyer, Region III | |
| E. Merschoff, Region IV | |

CRGR MEETING No. 379
LIST OF ATTENDEES
(January 28, 2003)

CRGR Members

Charles E. Ader, Chairman
Brian W. Sheron, NRR
M. Wayne Hodges, NMSS (for Margaret V. Federline)
Janice E. Moore, OGC
Jack R. Strosnider, RES
Bruce S. Mallett, RII

Les Cupidon, CRGR Staff

NRR Staff

Richard J. Barrett, NRR/DE
Ledyard B. Marsh, NRR/DLPM
William H. Bateman, NRR/DE/EMCB
Michael L. Marshall, NRR/DE/EMCB
Steven D. Bloom, NRR/DLPM/PDII-2
William D. Reckley, NRR/DLPM/PDIV-1
Ken J. Karwoski, NRR/DE/EMCB

OPA Staff

Scott R. Burnell, OPA