

Q. McKnight
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 7, 1998

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 97-63, SUPPLEMENT 1: STATUS OF NRC STAFF'S REVIEW
OF BWRVIP-05

Addressees

All holders of operating licenses for boiling water reactors (BWRs).

Purpose

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this supplemental information notice to inform addressees about the status of the NRC staff's review of "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, BWR Reactor Pressure Vessel Shell Weld Inspection Recommendations (BWRVIP-05)." This information notice supplement alerts BWR licensees that relief may be requested from inservice inspection requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) for volumetric examination of circumferential reactor pressure vessel (RPV) welds. No specific action or written response is required.

Background

On August 7, 1997, the staff issued Information Notice (IN) 97-63, "Status of NRC Staff's Review of BWRVIP-05," which informed the industry that the staff would consider technically justified requests for reliefs from BWR licensees who were scheduled to perform inspections of the BWR RPV circumferential shell welds during the Fall 1997 or Spring 1998 outage seasons. Acceptably justified reliefs were considered for inspection delays of up to two operating cycles for BWR RPV circumferential shell welds only.

Discussion

The staff has not yet completed its review and safety evaluation (SE) of the BWRVIP-05 report, and does not expect to complete the review before the Fall 1998 outage season. Therefore, the staff is extending the period in which it will consider technically justified requests for relief from the augmented examination in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), 50.55a(a)(3)(ii), and 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)A(5) from BWR licensees who are scheduled to perform inspections of the BWR RPV circumferential shell welds during the Fall 1998 or Spring 1999 outage seasons. Acceptably justified relief would be considered for inspection delays of up to two operating cycles for BWR RPV circumferential shell welds only. Licensees will still need to perform their required inspections of "essentially 100 percent" of all axial welds.

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updated on 5/26/98

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This information notice supplement requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact the person listed below or the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

Original signed by
 David B. Matthews FOR
 Jack W. Roe, Acting Director
 Division of Reactor Program Management
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Attachment: List of Recently Issued NRC Information Notices

*See previous concurrence
 Tech Editor concurred on 4/28/98

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**LIST OF RECENTLY ISSUED
 NRC INFORMATION NOTICES**

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date of Issuance	Issued to
98-16	Inadequate Operational Checks of Alarm Ratemeters	4/30/98	All Industrial Radiography Licensees
98-15	Integrity of Operator Licensing Examinations	4/20/98	All holder of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors except those that have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel
98-14	Undocumented Changes to Non-Power Reactor Safety System Wiring	4/20/98	All holders of operating licenses or construction permits for test research reactors
98-13	Post-Refueling Outage Reactor Pressure Vessel Leak Testing Before Core Criticality	4/20/98	All holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors except those that have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel
98-12	Licensees' Responsibilities Regarding Reporting and Follow-up Requirements for Nuclear-Powered Pacemakers	4/3/98	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission nuclear pacemaker licensees
98-11	Cracking of Reactor Vessel Internal Baffle Former Bolts in Foreign Plants	3/25/98	All holders of operating licensing for pressurized-water reactors (PWRs) except those who have ceased operation and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

OL = Operating License
 CP = Construction Permit

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