

UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

April 15, 1991

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 91-28: CRACKING IN FEEDWATER SYSTEM PIPING

Addressees:

All holders of operating licenses or construction permits for pressurized water reactors (PWRs).

Purpose:

This information notice is intended to inform addressees of the issuance of a document which closes out NRC Bulletin 79-13, "Cracking in Feedwater System Piping," and actions taken by some licensees to perform augmented inspections of their feedwater lines as part of their inservice inspection programs. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider actions, as appropriate, to avoid similar problems. However, suggestions contained in this information notice do not constitute NRC requirements; therefore, no specific action or written response is required.

Description of Circumstances:

On June 25, 1979, the NRC issued Bulletin 79-13 in response to observed cracking in the feedwater lines at the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant. The bulletin and its supplements required the licensees of 54 pressurized water reactors (PWRs) to provide responses that addressed specific safety concerns. The NRC's closeout action involved the review of the licensees' responses to this bulletin, and review of related NRC documents, such as inspection reports, to determine if the bulletin actions have been completed.

Discussion:

The NRC issued NUREG/CR-5285, "Closeout of IE Bulletin 79-13: 'Cracking in Feedwater System Piping,'" dated March 1991 to document the closeout of the bulletin for all of the 54 PWRs that were required to respond. The report concludes that (1) the licensees for all of the affected facilities identified in the bulletin and its supplements have taken the actions required by the bulletin, and (2) the concerns expressed in the bulletin were confirmed, in that cracks were found and corrected at 18 of the 54 facilities. Furthermore, the report indicates that some licensees have incorporated augmented inspections of their feedwater lines as part of their inservice inspection programs and recommends that such licensees continue to perform the inspections

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because these inspections appear to reliably detect degradation in feedwater piping. Copies of the report may be obtained by contacting the Government Printing Office at the telephone number (202) 275-2060.

This information notice requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact the technical contact listed below or the appropriate NRR project manager.

*Charles E. Rossi*

Charles E. Rossi, Director  
Division of Operational Events Assessment  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Technical Contact: N. Prasad Kadambi, NRR  
(301) 492-0841

Attachment: List of Recently Issued NRC Information Notices

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LIST OF RECENTLY ISSUED  
NRC INFORMATION NOTICES

| Information Notice No. | Subject  | Date of Issuance | Issued to   |
|------------------------|--|------------------|---|
| 91-27                  | Incorrect Rotation of Positive Displacement Pump   | 04/10/91         | All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.   |
| 89-90, Supp. 1         | Pressurizer Safety Valve Lift Setpoint Shift   | 04/10/91         | All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.   |
| 91-26                  | Potential Nonconservative Errors in the Working Format Hansen-Roach Cross-Section Set Provided with The Keno and Scale Codes                       | 04/02/91         | All fuel cycle licensees and other licensees, including all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, who use physics codes to support criticality safety in the use of fissile material. |
| 91-25                  | Commercial-Grade Structural Framing Components Supplied As Nuclear Safety-Related Equipment  | 04/01/91         | All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.   |
| 91-24                  | Recent Operating Experience Involving Reactor Operation Without A Licensed Reactor Operator or Senior Reactor Operator Present in the Control Room | 03/26/91         | All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power, test, and research reactors, and all Part 55 licensed operators.   |
| 91-23                  | Accidental Radiation Overexposures to Personnel Due to Industrial Radiography Accessory Equipment Malfunctions                                     | 03/26/91         | All Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licensees authorized to use sealed sources for industrial radiography.  |
| 91-22                  | Four Plant Outage Events Involving Loss of AC Power or Coolant Spills  | 03/19/91         | All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.   |

OL = Operating License  
CP = Construction Permit

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Original Signed by  
Charles E. Rossi

Charles E. Rossi, Director  
Division of Operational Events Assessment  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Technical Contact: N. Prasad Kadambi, NRR  
(301) 492-0841

Attachment: List of Recently Issued NRC Information Notices

*IN 91-28*  
Document Name: ~~INFO NOTICE-KADAMBI~~

\*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCES

\*OGCB:DOEA:NRR\*C/EMCB:DET:NRR  
NPKadambi CYCheng  
03/25/91 03/26/91

\*RPB:ADM \*C/OGCB:DOEA:NRR  
TechEd CHBerlinger  
03/28/91 04/03/91

*[Signature]*  
C/DOEA:NRR  
CERossi  
04/9/91

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\*RPB:ADM  
TechEd  
03/28/91

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| OGCB:DOEA:NRR           | C/EMCB:DET:NRR                  | RPB:ADM                      | C/OGCB:DOEA:NRR | D/DOEA:NRR |
| <i>NPK</i><br>NPKadambi | CYCheng <i>ST</i><br><i>cyc</i> | JMain<br>TechEd<br><i>gm</i> | CHBerlinger     | CERossi    |
| 03/25/91                | 03/26/91                        | 03/28/91                     | 03/ /91         | 03/ /91    |