

From: Thomas Alexion
To: SBENNE2@entergy.com
Date: 5/30/03 8:59AM
Subject: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Steve,

See the attached.

Tom

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REQUEST FOR RELAXATION FROM SECTION IV.C.(1)(a) OF THE ORDER
ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2

The purposes of the bare metal visual (BMV) examination required by Order Section IV.C(1)(a) are to detect the presence of deposits (indicative of leakage) at the interface of the reactor pressure vessel (RPV) head and the vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles and to provide positive assurance of the integrity of the RPV head, i.e., that no corrosion of the RPV head is occurring. For the purpose of detecting deposits indicative of leakage, BMV is a diverse and complementary examination to the UT measurements required by Order Section IV.C(1)(b)(i) or the surface examination requirements of Order Section IV.C(1)(b)(ii). Therefore, one function of the BMV is to provide a second opportunity to identify a leaking nozzle that may have eluded detection by the non-visual examination required by Order Section IV.C(1)(b). Absent a compensatory alternative (or alternatives) that supports this diverse and complementary function of the BMV for leakage detection and the function of providing assurance of integrity of the RPV head, approval of a relaxation request to not perform the BMV is unlikely.

The licensee needs to describe how its alternative examination(s) supports the functions of the BMV, in particular the diverse and complementary function of leakage detection to the non-visual examination requirements of Order Section IV.C(1)(b), such that an acceptable level of quality and safety is achieved, or how performance of a BMV results in hardship without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety, that justifies their alternative.

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Subject: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Creation Date: 5/30/03 8:59AM
From: Thomas Alexion

Created By: TWA@nrc.gov

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MESSAGE	657	05/30/03 08:59AM

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