

# Bottom Mounted Instrument Guide Tube Condition



# STP Participants

---

---

Tom Jordan	VP, Engineering & Tech Services
Mark McBurnett	Manager, Quality & Licensing
Steve Thomas	Manager, Plant Design
Michael Lashley	Test Engineering Supervisor
Bill Humble	NSSS Supervisor
Ron Baker	Materials Specialist
Wayne Harrison	Licensing Engineer
Joe Loya	Design Engineer
Ulhas Patil	Design Engineer

# **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

**Mark McBurnett**  
**Manager, Quality & Licensing**

# Agenda

---

---

Introductory Remarks

Mark McBurnett

Desired Outcomes and Background

Tom Jordan

Discovery and Initial Investigation

Steve Thomas

Cause Investigation Process

Steve Thomas

NDE Action Plan

Michael Lashley

Repair Options

Steve Thomas

Schedule and Milestones

Mark McBurnett

Concluding Remarks

Mark McBurnett

# **DESIRED MEETING OUTCOMES and BACKGROUND**

**Tom Jordan  
Vice President,  
Engineering & Technical Services**

# Desired Meeting Outcomes

---

---

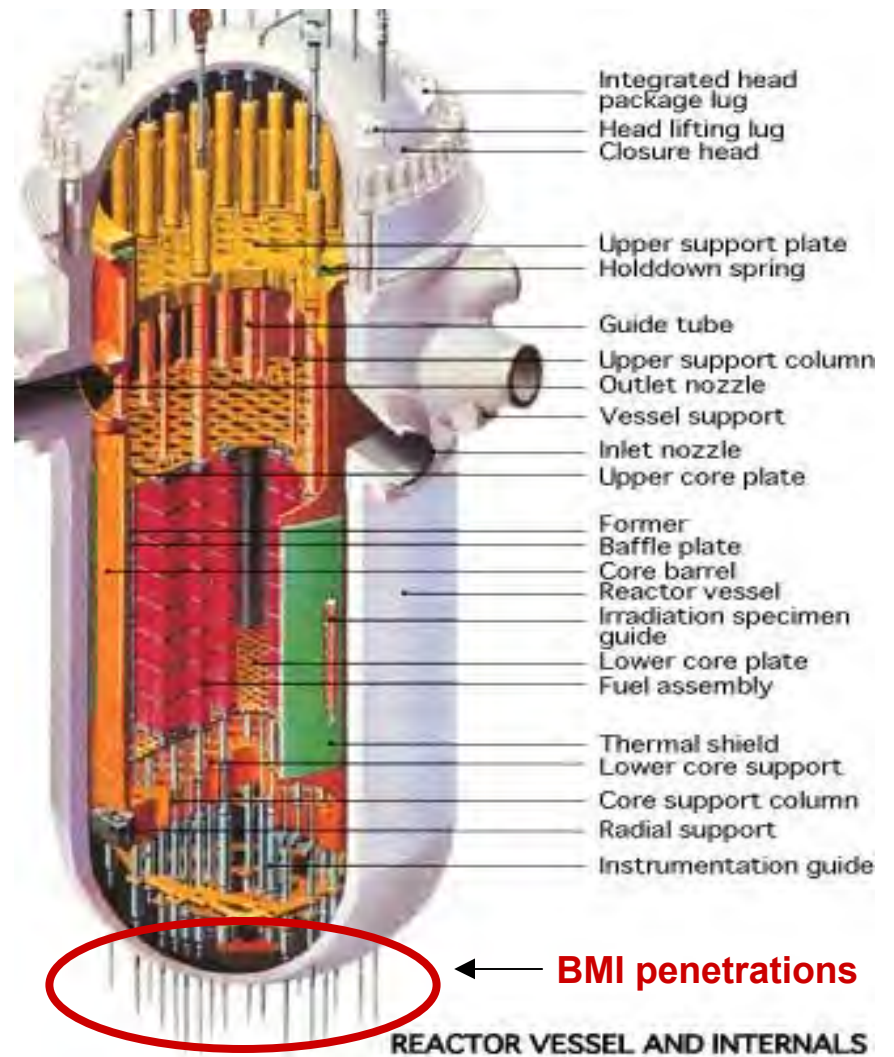
- NRC fully informed about condition and current status
- NRC understands current plans for NDE
- NRC understands current repair options
- NRC understands the cause investigation process
- Key stakeholders identified
- STP clearly understands NRC questions and has an action to provide responses

# Opening Remarks

---

---

April 12 - residue found on two of the 58 Bottom Mounted Instrumentation (BMI) penetrations.





## **What we saw:**

A small amount of residue had accumulated approximately 90 degrees around the guide tubes at vessel Penetrations #1 and #46.

The BMI guide tubes measure ~1.5 inches outside diameter.

The quantity of residue found on Penetration #1 is equivalent to about half of an aspirin (approximately 150 mg).

Penetration #46 had about 3 milligrams of residue.

# Evaluation results

Our initial sample results revealed boron in the samples. We reported to the NRC that we had potential reactor coolant leakage from these two penetrations.

# Eliminating other possibilities

Other sources such as leakage from the refueling cavity and the possibility of other materials containing boron (paint, etc.) were considered. After exhaustive chemical analysis, it was determined that the source of the residue was reactor coolant.

# Our inspection process works

We inspect the exterior of our vessel each time we shutdown for a refueling outage. Previous inspections did not reveal indications of seepage.



# Prompt, Comprehensive Response

- We are currently employing a team of experts to assist in the evaluation and development of corrective actions.
- The unit will not be restarted until the root cause is determined and the condition has been repaired.
- Unit 2 has been inspected in the last six months with no noted anomalies.

# **Cooperative approach**

**We will continue to work closely with the NRC, other stations' experts, specialty contractors, and industry agencies to complete our inspections, analyses, and repair development. We are confident that this cooperative effort will result in effective resolution of this issue and the resultant safe restart of Unit 1.**

# **DISCOVERY and INITIAL INVESTIGATION**

**Steve Thomas  
Manager, Plant Design**

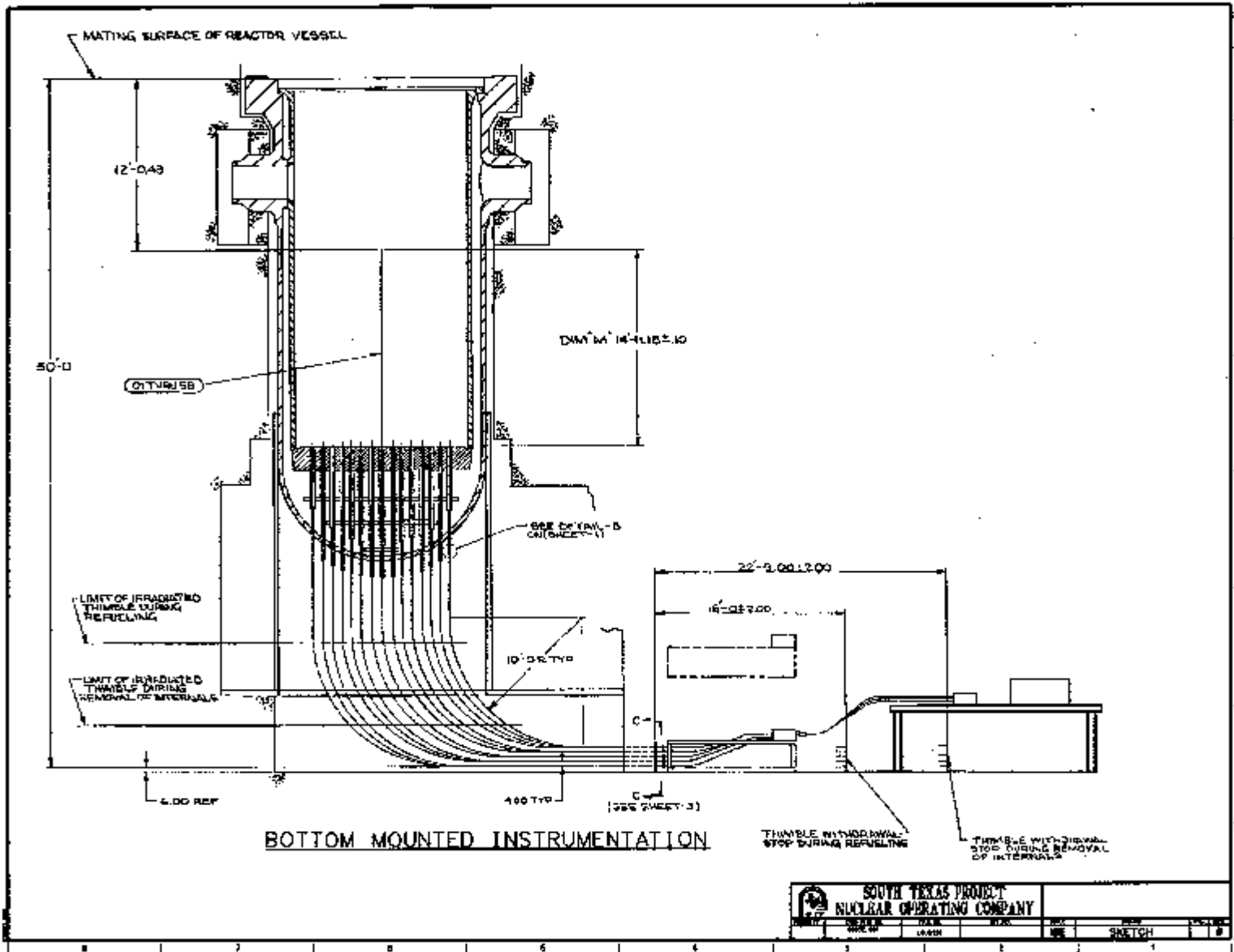


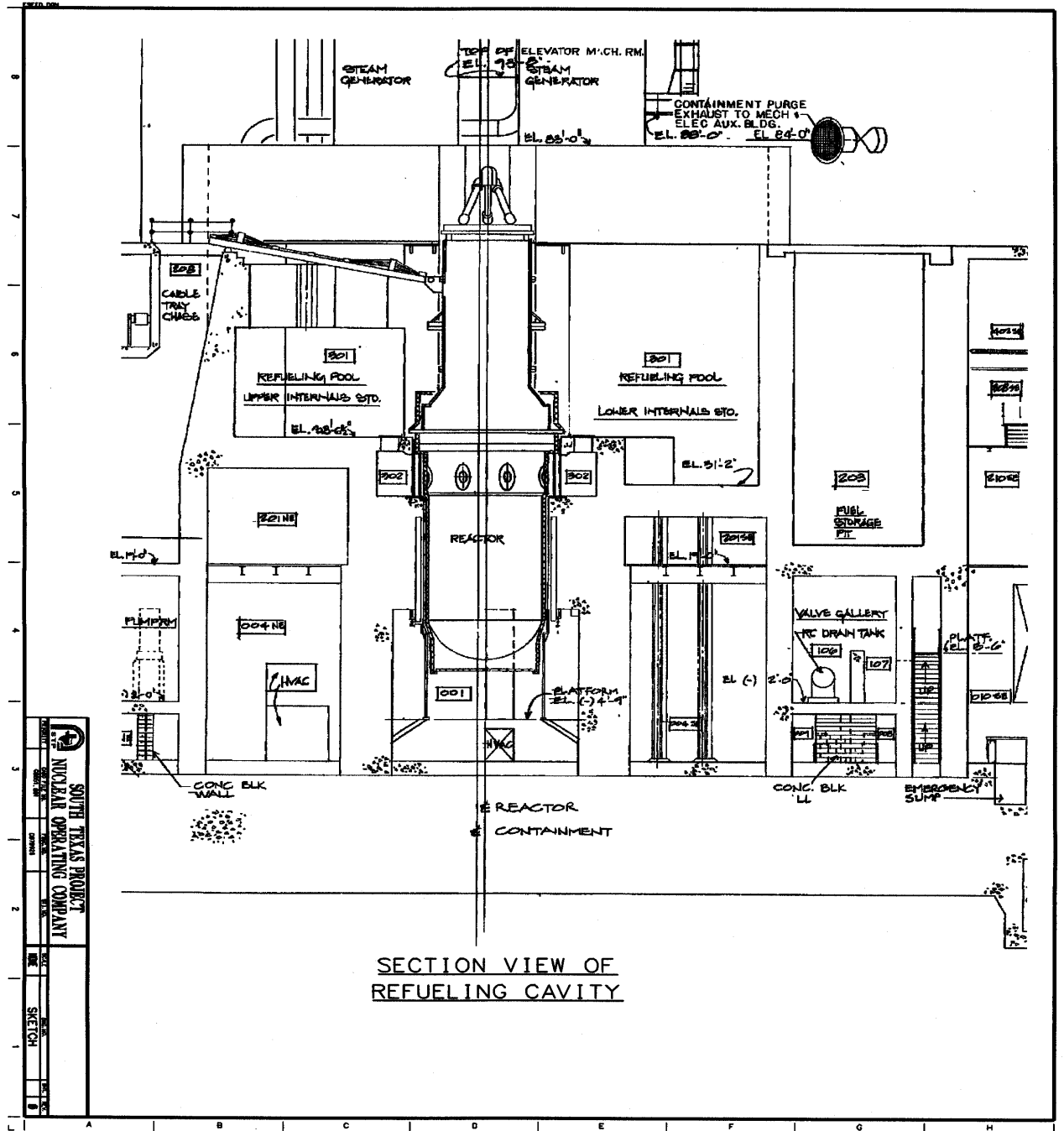
# ~ 12" Between Insulation and Head



5/1/03

17



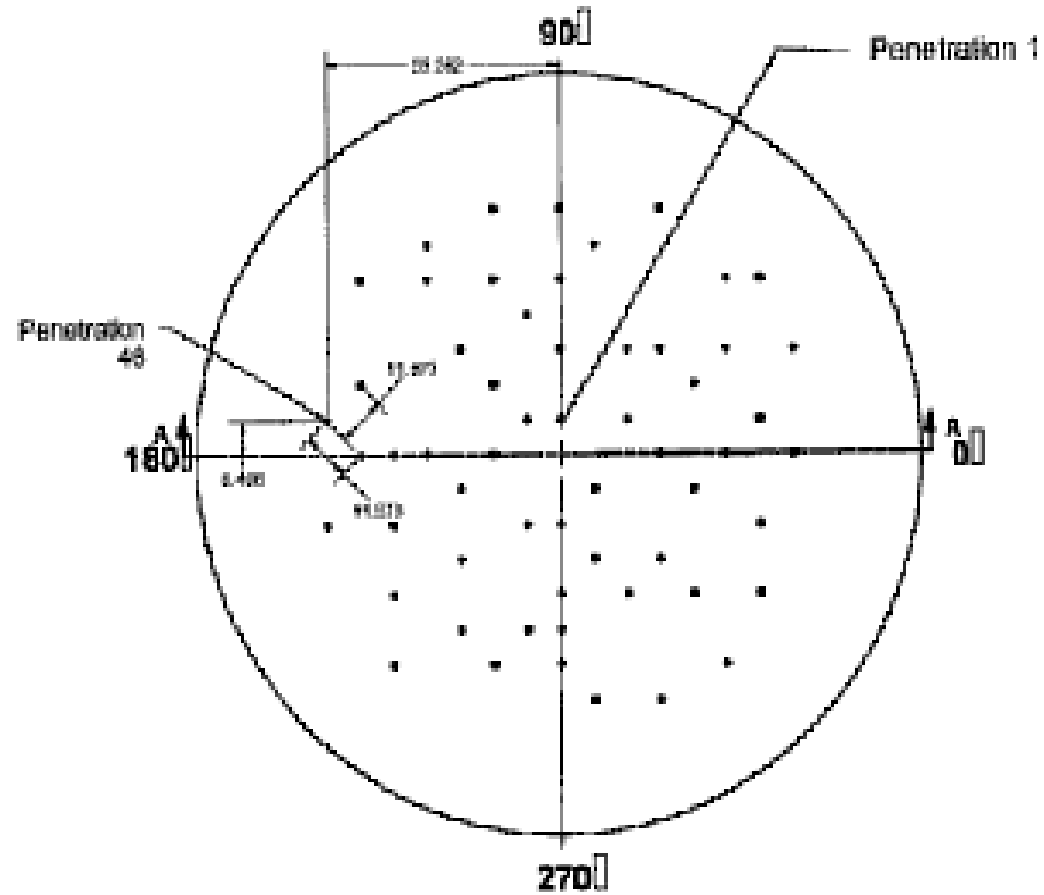


SECTION VIEW OF REFUELING CAVITY

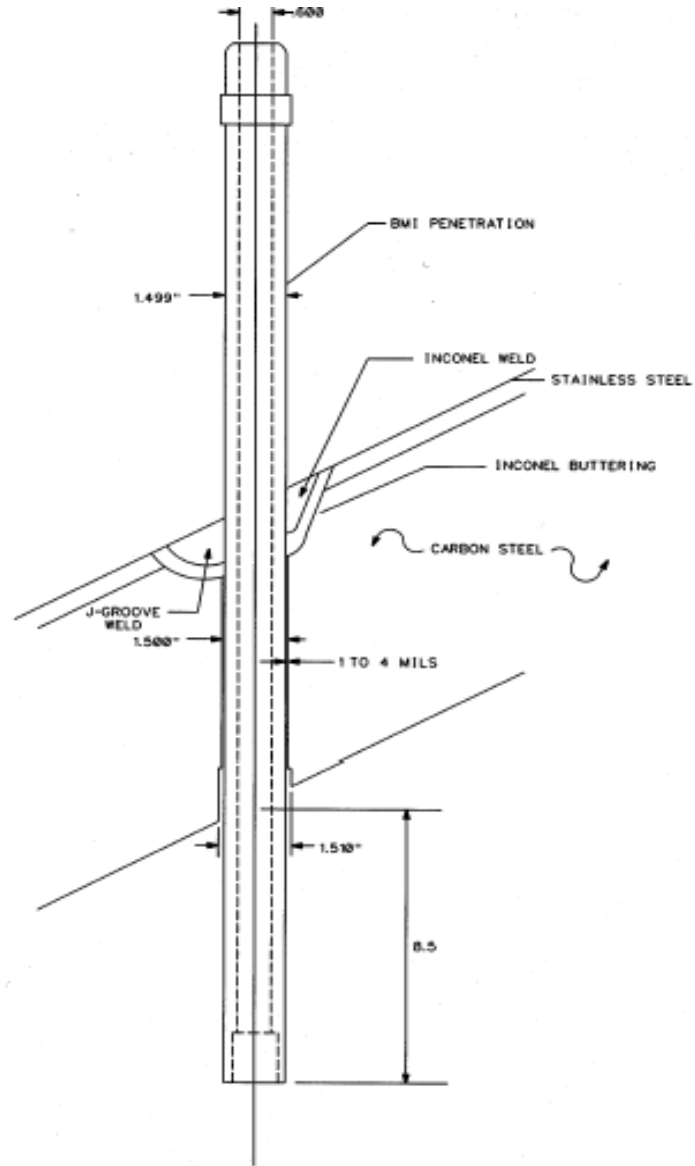
SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT  
 NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY  
 SHEET NO. 1001  
 SCALE: AS SHOWN  
 DATE: 5/1/03  
 DRAWN BY: [Name]  
 CHECKED BY: [Name]  
 APPROVED BY: [Name]

5/1/03

# Penetration Locations



# BMI Guide Tube



# Guide Tube



# Planned Inspection

---

---

- Normal planned inspection
- Inspection is proceduralized
- Inspection specifically looks for this condition
- We have been inspecting regularly since initial plant startup

# Penetration #1



5/1/03

24



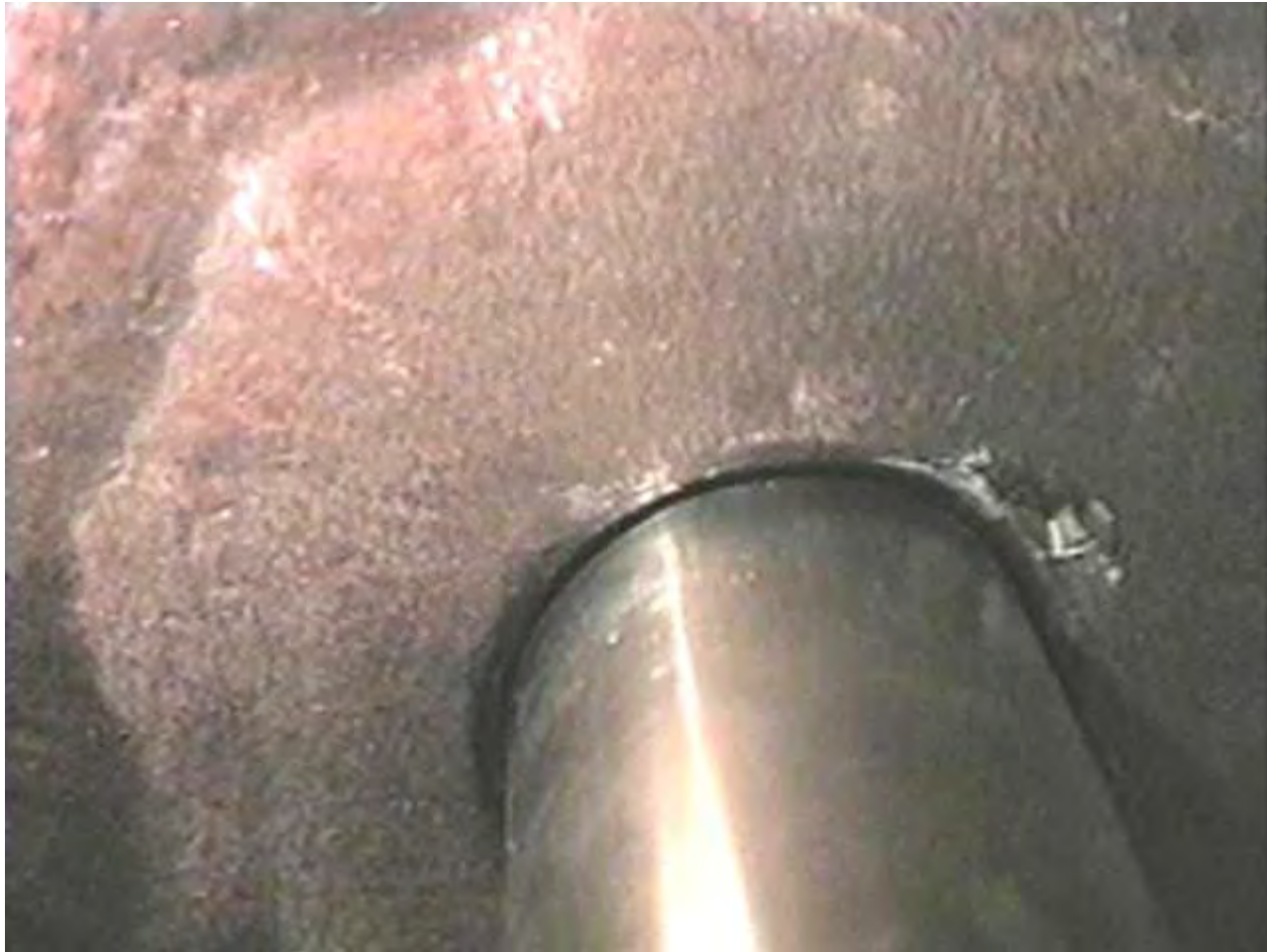
# Penetration #46



5/1/03

25

# Penetration #1 After Cleaning



# Initial Investigation

---

---

- All 58 guide tubes examined; no additional residue found
- Experts from four nuclear plants brought to STP
- EPRI experts contacted
- Samples tested at two independent offsite labs as well as onsite lab

# Sample Analysis

---

---

The samples contained lithium and boron.

The samples did not contain any iron.

# Age of Deposits

---

---

- Co-58 not present, therefore  $> 1$  year
- Ratio of Cs-134 to Cs-137 indicates  
~ 4 years

# **CAUSE INVESTIGATION PROCESS**

**Steve Thomas**  
**Manager, Plant Design**

# Cause Investigation Process

---

---

- Possible causes
  - Fabrication defect
    - » Lack of fusion
    - » Weld hot crack
  - Fatigue
    - » Mechanical
    - » Thermal
  - Stress corrosion cracking
- Investigation team adapted EPRI Materials Reliability Program FMEA model

# Cause Investigation Process (cont'd)

- Failure scenario construction
- Root cause determination
- Identify generic implications for STP
- Identify corrective actions
  - Analysis
  - Repair
  - Monitoring



# **Cause Investigation Process (cont'd)**

- Implementation
- Effectiveness Review

# **NDE ACTION PLAN**

**Michael Lashley**  
**Test Engineering Supervisor**

# Action Plan

---

---

- Determine NDE priorities
  - Penetrations 1 & 46
    - » Determine throughwall leak path
    - » Find structurally significant flaws
    - » Find other flaws
    - » Assess wastage
  - Other penetrations
    - » Find structurally significant flaws
    - » Find other flaws
- Evaluate operating experience
  - Work by MRP on CRDM head penetrations
  - Worldwide experience

# Action Plan (cont'd)

---

---

- Determine NDE capabilities
  - Identified three experienced vendors
  - Selected two vendors to demonstrate NDE capabilities
- Determine scope of inspections
  - Guide tubes/penetrations
  - Volumetric exam of tube
  - Visual exam of J-groove weld

# Action Plan (cont'd)

---

---

- Develop the STP NDE approach
  - Select approach that satisfies NDE priorities
  - Select approach that is acceptable to the NRC
- Model EPRI MRP approach for CRDM inspections

# EPRI MRP Approach for CRDM Inspections

---

---

- Define NDE objectives
  - Identify relevant flaw mechanisms
  - Define inspection locations and volumes
  - Define range of flaws to address
- Mockup design and procurement
- Demonstration protocol and schedule
  - Blind / non-blind
  - Detection / sizing / location
  - False calls

# NDE Objectives

---

---

- Relevant flaw mechanisms
  - PWSCC, fatigue, fabrication defects, etc.
- Inspection locations and volumes
  - ID/OD of tube
  - Tube to weld interface
  - Weld surface
- Range of flaws
  - 10%- 100%TW
  - 0.25" - 0.50" length
  - Axial / circumferential

# Mockup Design and Procurement

---

---

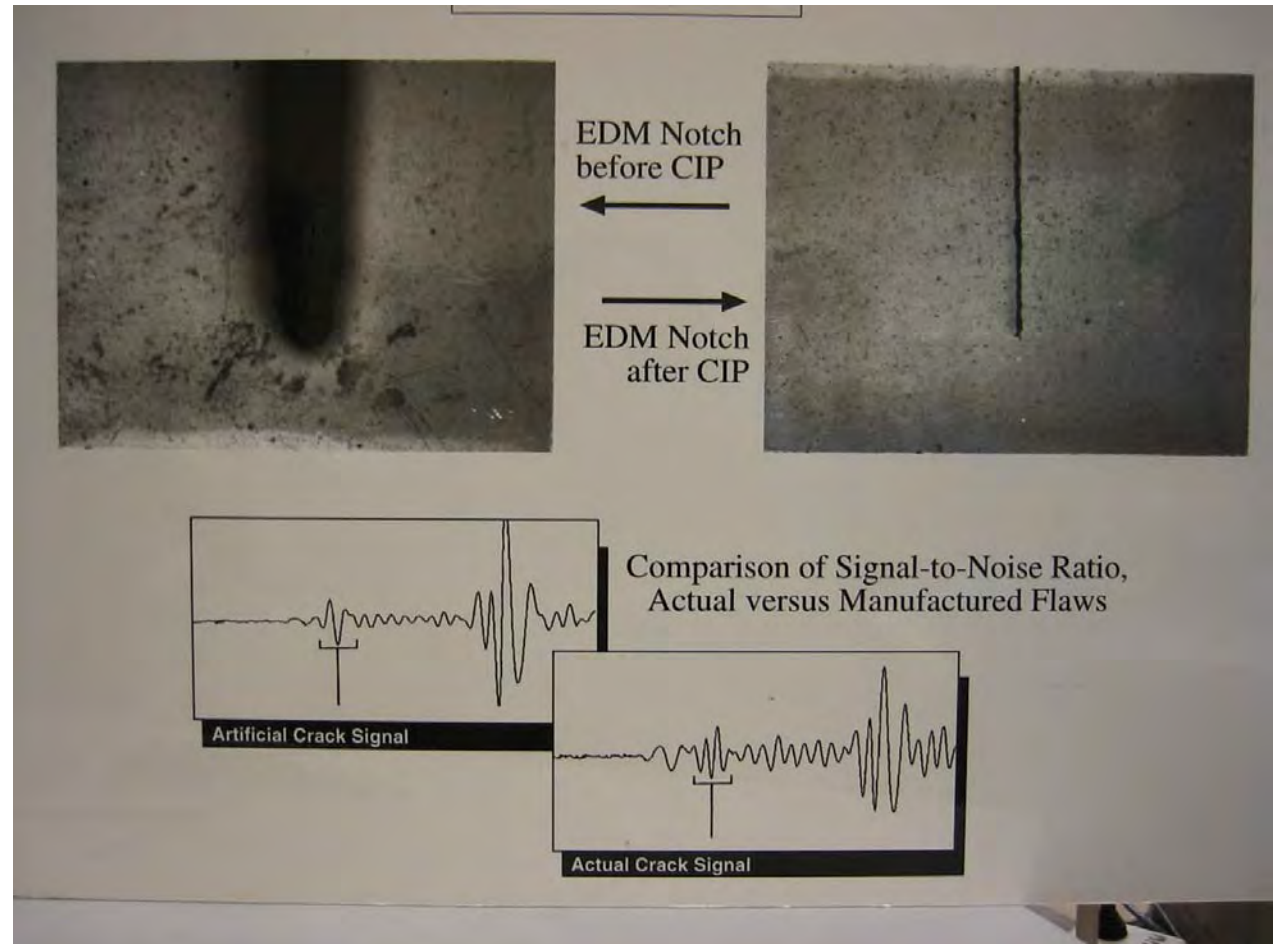
- Full scale mockup
  - Simulate outer periphery location
  - Guide tube machined from Alloy 600 to match design
  - Curved vessel dropout with machined penetration / J-groove
- Demonstration standards
  - Simulate the inspection volume
  - Contain range of ID/OD flaws



# Mockup Design

## CIP-Cold Isostatic Processing

- Compresses the notch to produce crack-like defect
- Accurately controlled size, location, orientation
- Qualified to produce realistic ET and UT simulations
- Used in all MRP VHP NDE demonstrations



# Demonstration Protocol

---

---

- Scope
  - Detection and sizing of axial and circumferential flaws in the tube
    - » Isolated flaws
    - » Axial and circumferential flaws in conjunction
    - » ID and OD flaws
  - Discrimination of flaws from sources of false calls
  - Flaw locations relative to component geometry

# Demonstration Protocol (cont'd)

---

---

- Process - follows MRP process for VHP demos
  - Phase 1 (open/non-blind)
    - » Allow refinement of procedures under realistic, controlled conditions
    - » Allow analysis of results to determine and improve capabilities of individual techniques within the procedure
      - Detection, sizing, location
  - Phase 2 (monitored/blind)
    - » Demonstrates capability
      - Detection, sizing, location

# Demonstration Protocol (cont'd)

---

---

- Reporting
  - Performance of inspection organizations will be documented to record the following parameters:
    - » Procedure identification, including essential variables
    - » Detection performance
    - » False call performance
    - » Sizing performance
    - » Flaw location performance

# Demonstration Schedule

---

---

- Schedule
  - Procure/fabricate mockups
    - » Standards - in progress 5/1
    - » Mockup - in progress 5/9
  - Phase 1 (open/non-blind)
    - » Vendor A 5/2 - 5/5
    - » Vendor B 5/2 - 5/5
  - Phase 2 (monitored/blind)
    - » Vendor A (US home office) 5/6 - 5/7
    - » Vendor B (US home office) 5/8 - 5/9

# Inspections

---

---

- Penetration 1 & 46
  - UT and/or ET from guide tube ID
  - Enhance visual exam of J-groove weld surface
  - Volumetrically interrogate vessel base metal for wastage
- Remaining penetrations
  - UT and/or ET from the guide tube ID
  - Enhance visual exam of J-groove weld surface

# Inspection Equipment



The scanning manipulator is positioned on the nozzle with a rigid pole system.



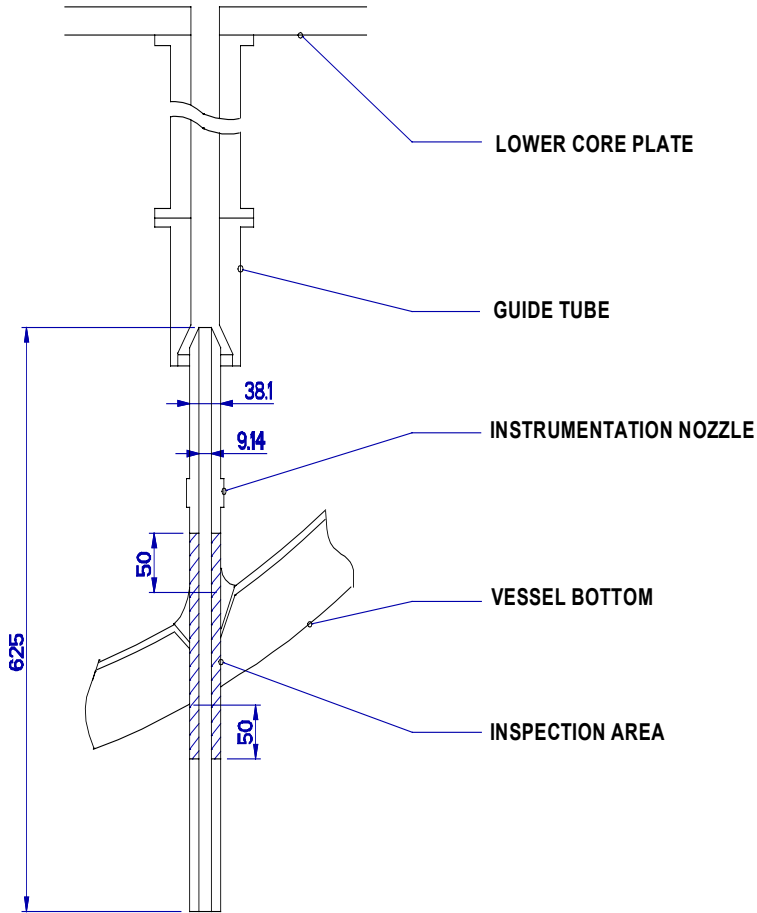
Bottom nozzle inspection manipulator



The manipulator positioned on a nozzle.



ET / UT probe for defect detection (left)  
 UT pulse echo probe for socket weld inspection  
 UT TOFD probe for defect sizing (right)



# Ultrasonic and Eddy Current Probes





# Inspection Tool and Operating Station



# Inspection Tool



# **REPAIR OPTIONS**

**Steve Thomas**  
**Manager, Plant Design**

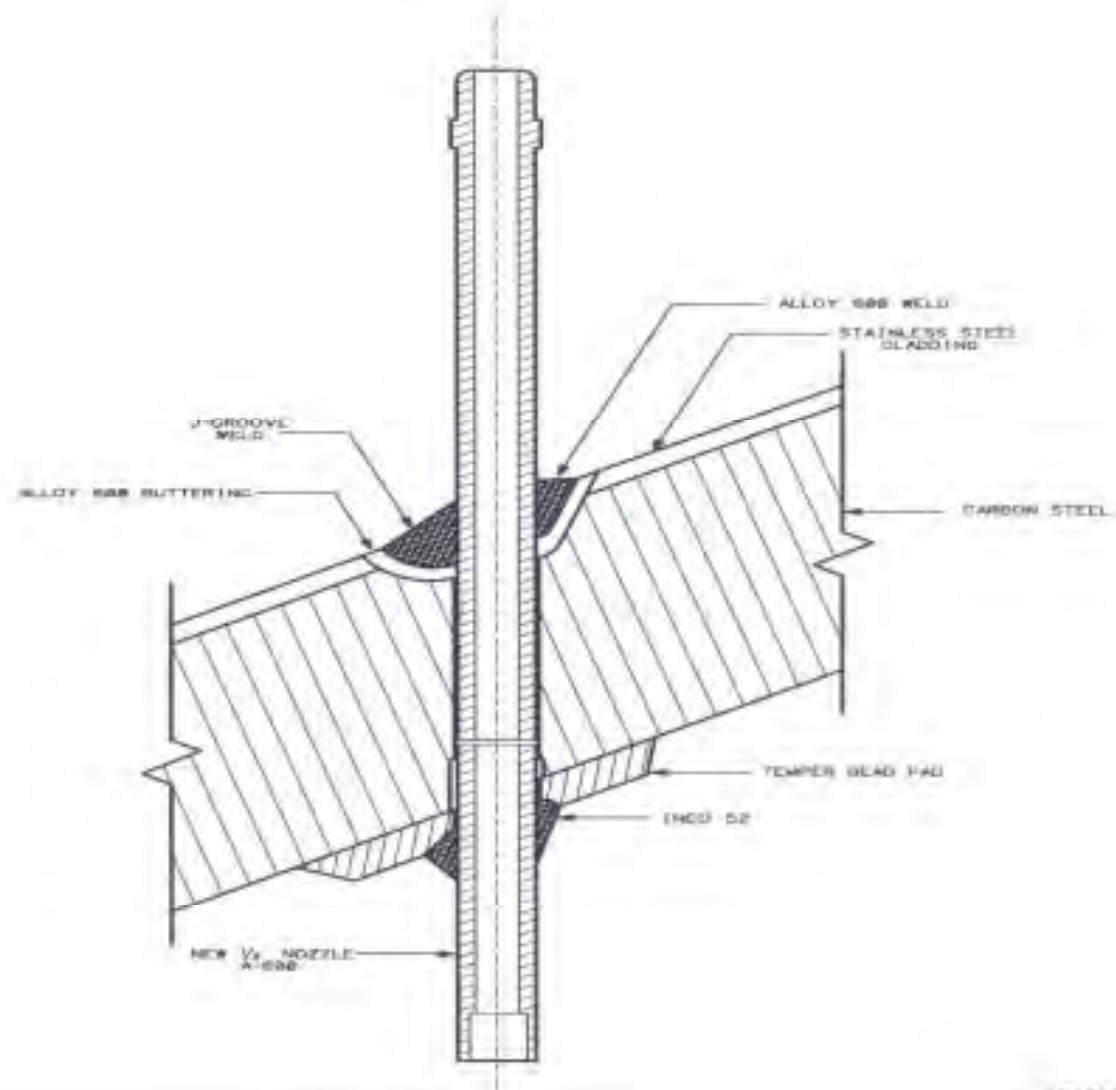
# Repair Options

---

---

- Half-nozzle
- Mechanical Nozzle Seal Assembly (MNSA)
- Encapsulation / Capped

# Half-Nozzle Repair Method



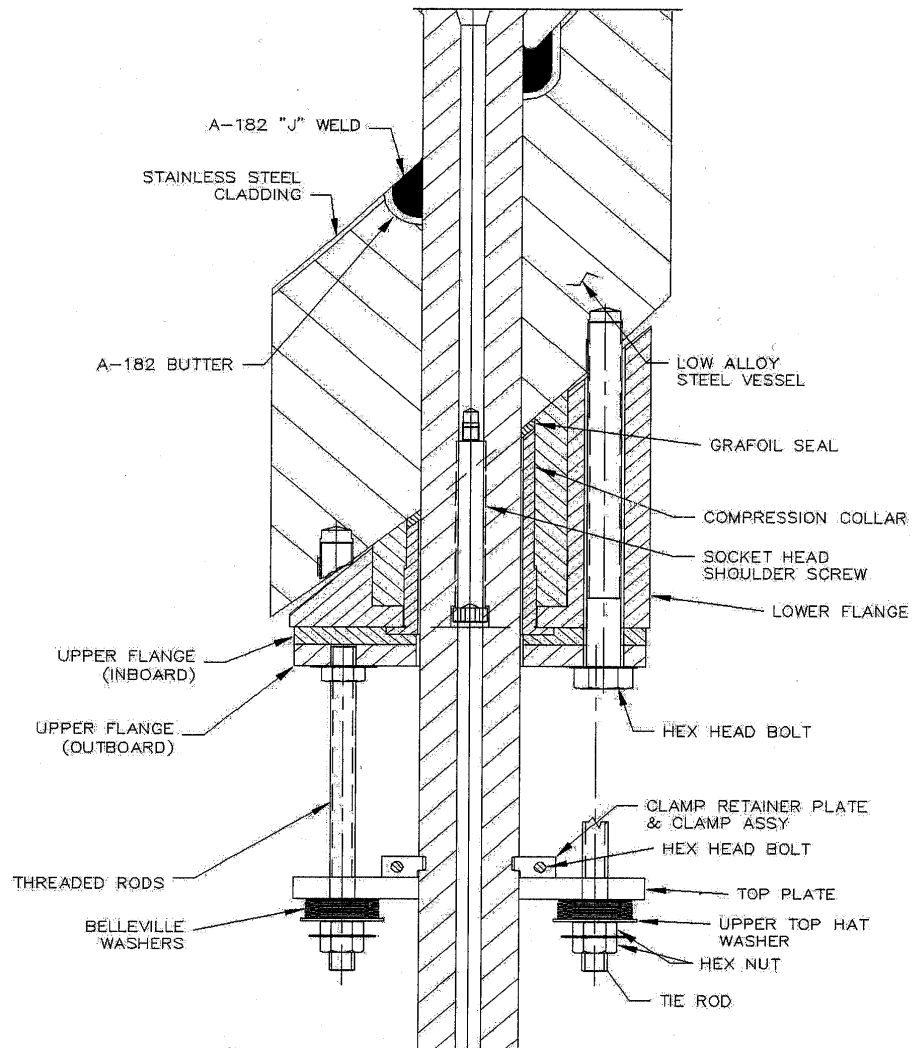
# Half-Nozzle

---

---

- New Alloy 690T nozzle
- Alloy 600 material no longer pressure boundary
- Temperbead pad
- Core offloaded with lower internals removed
- Thimble removed for repair
- Remote machining

# MNSA Repair Method



# MNSA

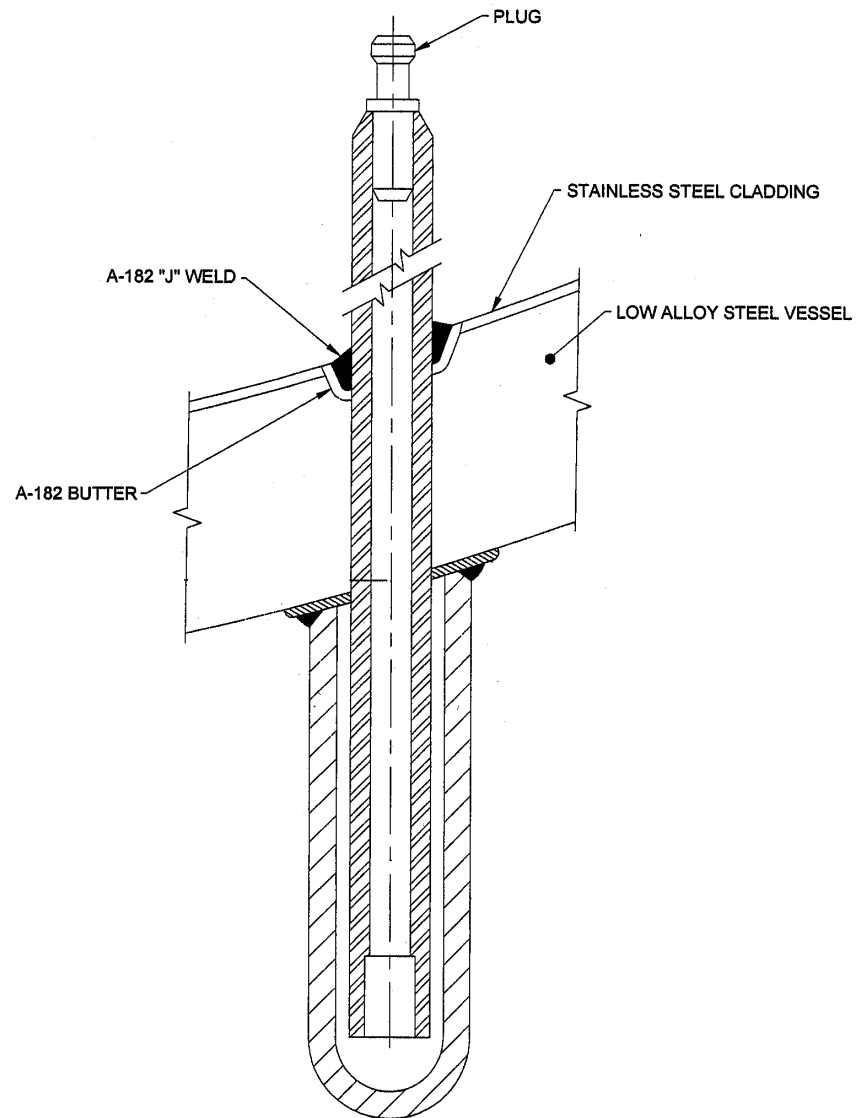
---

---

- No core impact
- Machine groove in Alloy 600 tube
- Restrains existing J-groove weld
- Drill/tap pressure vessel
- High “hillside” angle difficult to seal and induces bending moments



# Encapsulation / Capped Repair Method



# Encapsulation / Capped

---

---

- Thimble removal required
- Limited scope repair
- Nozzle function lost
- Requires Temperbead pad and weld

# Regulatory Review

---

---

- Use 10CFR50.59 to determine if license amendment required
- Relief request
- Code cases
  - N-638, ambient Temperbead
  - N-2142-1, nickel base weld metals

# **SCHEDULE and MILESTONES**

**Mark McBurnett**

**Manager, Quality & Licensing**

# Outage Milestones

---

---

- Reactor disassembled; core offloaded - mid-May
- Complete NDE and analysis - late May
- Design approval; relief request submittal - early June
- Commence repairs - mid-June
- Final breaker closure - late Summer

# **Future Plans and Action Items**

- Meetings with NRC - next one proposed for week of May 26
- Weekly conference calls with NRC
- NRC inspections

# **CONCLUDING REMARKS**

**Mark McBurnett**  
**Manager, Quality & Licensing**

MEETING PARTICIPANTS  
FOR  
MEETING BETWEEN STPNOC AND NRC  
ON MAY 1, 2003

<u>Participants</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Michael Leishlear	STP
Ulhas Patil	STP
Ron Baker	STP
Bill Humble	STP
T. J. Jordan	STP
Steve Thomas	STP
Joe Loya	STP
Wayne Harrison	STP
Mark McBurnett	STP
Leonard Wert	NRC
Eric Reichelt	NRC
Matthew Mitchell	NRC
Edmund Sullivan	NRC
Keith Wichman	NRC
Jay Collins	NRC
David Terao	NRC
Stephen Monarque	NRC
Barry Elliot	NRC
Francis Grubelich	NRC
Donald Harrison	NRC
Mike Tschiltz	NRC
Veronica Klein	NRC
Jim Strnisha	NRC
Michelle Honcharik	NRC
Bart Fu	NRC
Steve Long	NRC
John Minns	NRC
DyLanne Duvigneaud	NRC
Steven Unikewicz	NRC
Bill Bateman	NRC
Edward Andruszkiewicz	NRC
Bill Reckley	NRC
Bob Gramm	NRC
Herb Berkow	NRC
Karen Gott	NRC
Mark Hartzman	NRC
Bob Davis	NRC
Rich Barrett	NRC
Donald Naujock	NRC
Steve Bloom	NRC



<u>Participants</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Anthony Mendiola	NRC
David Fischer	NRC
Mohan Thadani	NRC
Chris Gratton	NRC
Jack Foster	NRC
Eva Brown	NRC
Scott Burnell	NRC
Dwight Chamberlain	NRC
Russ Bywater	NRC
Alex Marion	NEI
Jim Riley	NEI
David Lochbaum	UCS
Frank Ammirato	EPRI
Joe Roarty	DNFSB
Toshiro Asakana	JAFRI
Kazuo Fiujiki	JAFRI
Taucher	Taucher International
Jim Riccio	Greenpeace
Altheia Wyche	SERCH Licensing/Bechtel
Terry Pickens	Null Management Company
Daniel Horner	McGraw-Hill
David Udoff	Energy Intelligence
Deann Releigh	Sciencetech
Poo Yoon	KHNP
C. Brinkman	Westinghouse
Ed Spiegel	Westinghouse
Al Gutterman	Morgan, Lewis, & Bockius
Al Butlauage	RGE
Roger Huston	Licensing Support Services
Phillip Rush	MPR Associates
Dan Salter	HGP, Inc.
Leslie Spain	Dominion General