

August 29, 2003

LICENSEE: Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy or the licensee)

FACILITY: Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 (ANO-2) and Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 (W3)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF AUGUST 14, 2003, CATEGORY 1 MEETING WITH ENTERGY TO DISCUSS ITS RELAXATION REQUESTS FROM THE VESSEL HEAD INSPECTION ORDER (TAC NOS. MB8927, MB9542, MB9644, MB9882, AND MB9883)

On August 14, 2003, a public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and representatives of Entergy, at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Entergy's May 8, June 11, and July 1, 2003, relaxation requests, as supplemented, from NRC's vessel head inspection Order. The first request was on the bare metal visual (BMV) exam, the second was for the nozzle threads on control element drive mechanism (CEDM) nozzles, and the third was for the combination of examination techniques. The first request pertains to ANO-2. The latter two pertain to ANO-2 and W3.

The licensee's presentation included a review of their relaxation requests, a new finding which revealed a limited amount of free span on the down-hill side of many ANO-2 CEDM nozzles, an overview of the deterministic fracture mechanics analysis performed for postulated flaws in the CEDM and in-core instrument nozzles, and an overview of the probabilistic analysis being performed for CEDMs.

The staff discussed the details of the additional information that the licensee needs to provide for the BMV relaxation request and the deterministic fracture mechanics analysis. In addition, the staff indicated that, although the licensee's deterministic conceptual approach appears to be reasonable, the relaxation requests need to be resubmitted to not only address the additional information needed, but to also show how all of the information provided fits together and to fully justify the hardship of not performing the Order-required inspections. Regarding the licensee's probabilistic approach, the staff indicated that given the time constraints associated with the upcoming ANO-2 and W3 outages, this approach is not viable.

Regarding timing of the revised relaxation requests, the staff indicated that it needs at least 30 days after the last submittal to complete its review and issue its Safety Evaluation. This 30-day schedule assumes that the licensee provides a high-quality submittal as discussed above.

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A list of meeting attendees is enclosed (no members of the public were in attendance). A copy of the licensee's slides presented at the meeting has been placed in the NRC Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (Accession Number ML032320180).

Please direct any inquiries to Tom Alexion at 301-415-1326, or twalexion@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-368 and 50-382

Enclosure: List of attendees

cc w/encl: See next page

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OFFICE	PDIV-1/PM	PDIV-1/LA	EMCB/SC	PDIV-1/SC
NAME	TAlexion	MMcAllister for DJohnson	ALH for TChan	RGramm
DATE	8/25/03	8/25/03	8/27/03	8/28/03

MEETING ON ENTERGY'S REQUEST FOR RELAXATION FROM

NRC'S VESSEL HEAD INSPECTION ORDER

ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2

AUGUST 14, 2003

ATTENDEES

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S. Sheng	NRC
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