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Mohan Thadani
Internet:jhicks1@txu.com
2/5/04 10:33AM
YOUR RESPONSE TO RAI RE: ALLOY 800

Jack:

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In your response to NRC staff Question 9 in your letter dated January 8, 2004, it was stated that the qualification program included sixteen sleeve/tube assemblies with laboratory-grown stress corrosion cracks.

A. Discuss whether any of these laboratory-grown stress corrosion cracks were situated in the portion of the tube that is adjacent to (i.e., behind) the sleeve's nickel band.

B. If some of the cracks were situated behind the nickel band, (1) discuss the size and location of these cracks (i.e., were some of the cracks situated in a manner that would require the eddy current signal to pass through the nickel band in order for the cracks to be detected); (2) discuss the orientation of the cracks (e.g., axial, circumferential, etc.); (3) discuss the effectiveness of the eddy current inspection method in detecting these cracks, and (4) if the eddy current technique is not effective at detecting these cracks, discuss which method will be used for this inspection and the technical basis for this method.

C. If some of the cracks were situated behind the nickel band, provide a methodology (and technical basis) for addressing the structural and leakage integrity for the sleeve/tube assembly, assuming that degradation (e.g., a 360°, 100% through-wall circumferential flaw) could be occurring in the portion of the tube that is adjacent to (i.e., behind) the sleeve's nickel band.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Mohan

(301) 415-1476 MCT@nrc.gov

CC: Joseph Terrell