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September 1, 2004

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

ATTENTION: Document Control Desk

SUBJECT: Duke Energy Corporation
Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Docket Nos. 50-287
McGuire Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Docket No. 50-370
Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 & 2, Docket Nos. 50-413, 50-414

Response to Request for Additional Information
Relief Request 04-GO-002
(TAC NOS. MC3804, MC3805, MC3807, MC3810)

Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) submitted Relief Request 04-GO-002 for Oconee Unit 3, McGuire Unit 2 and Catawba Units 1 and 2 on July 14, 2003. By letter dated August 11, 2004 the NRC Staff requested additional information with respect to several issues within the relief request. The Duke response to this request is attached.

Questions regarding this submittal may be directed to Mary Hazeltine at 704-382-5880.

Very truly yours,

Henry B. Barron

Attachments

A047

xc w/att: W. D. Travers, Regional Administrator
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bx c w/ att: R. L. Gill (EC05O)
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K. L. Crane (MG01RC)
N. T. Simms (MG01RC)
L. A. Keller (CN01RC)
K. E. Nicholson (CN01RC)
L. J. Rudy (CN01RC)
B. G. Davenport (ON03RC)
J. E. Smith (ON03RC)
R. P. Todd (ON03RC)
J. M. Ferguson - Date File (CN01SA)
R. K. Rhyne (EC05A)
J. J. McArdle (EC05A)
North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1
Saluda River Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Piedmont Municipal Power Agency
North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation
MNS MasterFile MC-801.01 (MG01DM)
CNS MasterFile CN-801.01 (CN04DM)
ONS MasterFile ON-801.01 (ON03DM)
ELL

1. Clarify the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code of record for each plant and ISI interval that applies including the start and end dates of the applicable ISI interval.

The ASME Section XI, 1989 Edition with no addenda is the applicable code of record for all units requesting relief. Catawba Unit 1 is in the second Inservice Inspection Interval, which started June 29, 1995 and ends June 29, 2005. Catawba Unit 2 is in the second Inservice Inspection Interval, which started August 19, 1996 and ends August 19, 2006. Oconee Unit 3 is in the third Inservice Inspection Interval which started December 16, 1994 and ends December 16, 2004.

McGuire Unit 2 will be performing second interval RPV inspections. Specific relief has been granted to extend the 10 year interval 92 days beyond the code allowed 1 year interval extension to complete the Reactor Vessel inspections (Duke Relief Request No. 03-004 approved July 20, 2004).

2. Provide the estimated volumetric coverage that the licensee is expected to obtain with the proposed alternative verses the volumetric coverage that it would obtain under current Code requirements.

The estimated volumetric coverage for the Flange - to - Upper Shell Welds at each unit are as follows:

- a. Catawba Unit 2 = 90.5%
 - b. McGuire Unit 2 and Catawba Unit 1 = 90.5%
 - c. Oconee Unit 3 = 72.6%
3. Provide drawings of the RPV Upper Shell to Flange and its weld for the affected units.

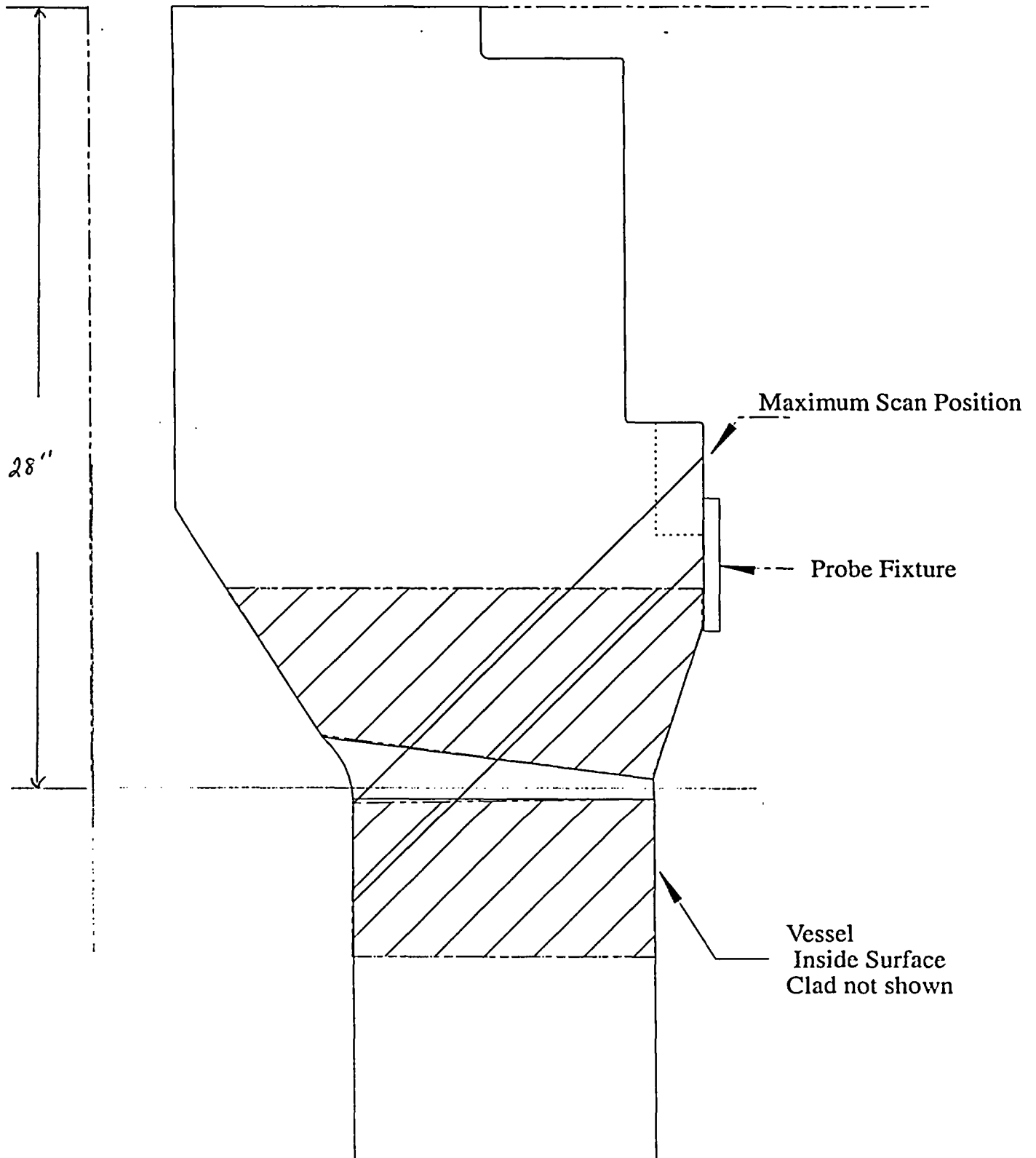
Drawings showing the Flange-to-Upper Shell Welds at each unit are attached as follows: Attachment 1, Catawba Unit 2 Reactor Pressure Vessel Flange-to-Upper Shell Weld, Attachment 2, CNS-1, MNS-2 Flange-to-Upper Shell Weld and Attachment 3, Oconee Unit 3 Reactor Pressure Vessel Flange-to-Upper Shell Weld.

4. Under Section I of your submittal you refer to an item number that does not coincide with the applicable ASME Section XI Category B-A, Item Number B1-30. Please clarify that this is an apparent typo in your submittal.

Response to Request for Additional Information
Relief Request 04-GO-002
Catawba, Units 1 and 2, McGuire Unit 2, and Oconee Unit 3
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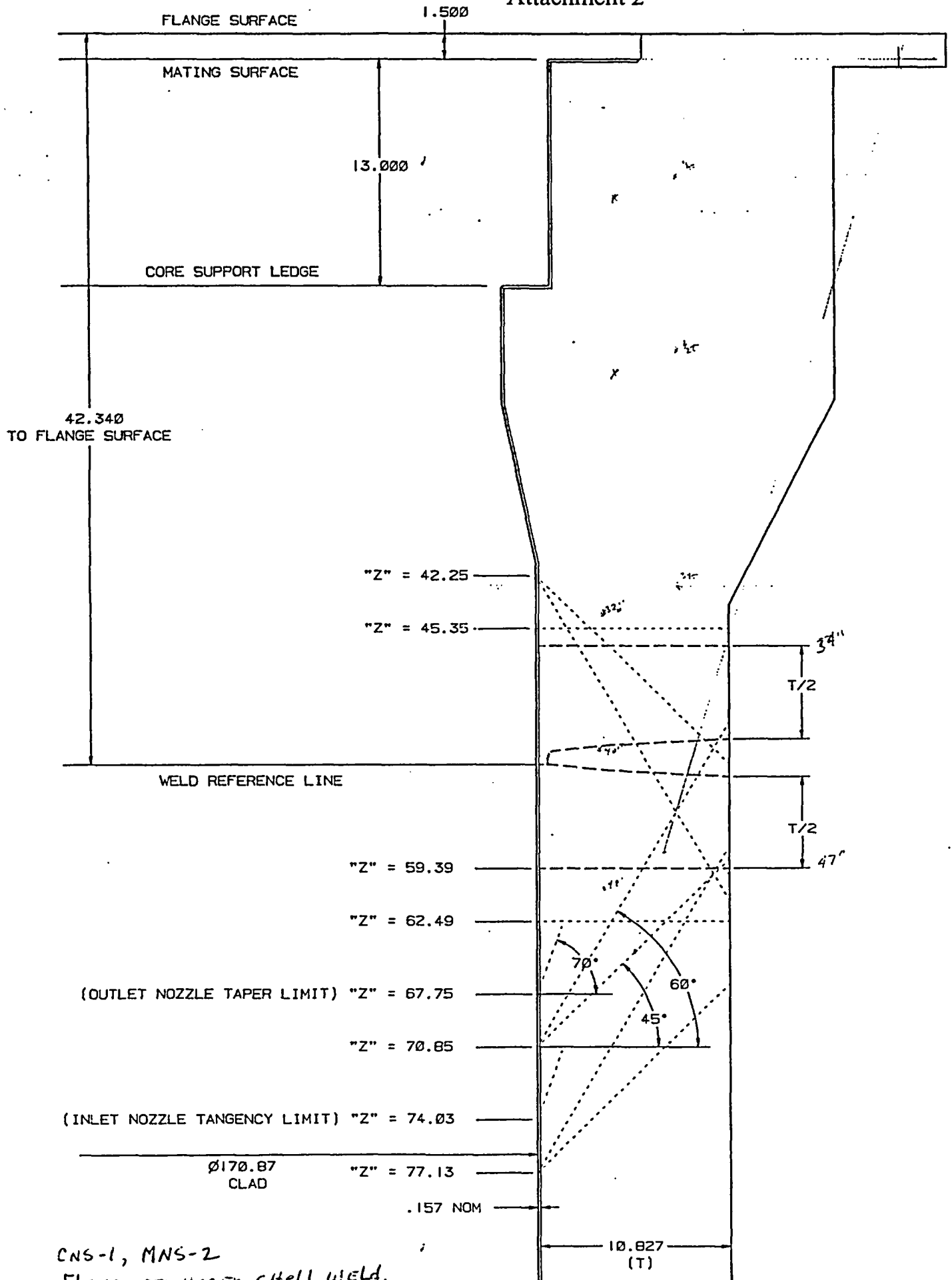
Under Section I of the submittal, the ASME Section XI Category B-A Item Number should be B-1-30, as stated in the question above.

Attachment 1



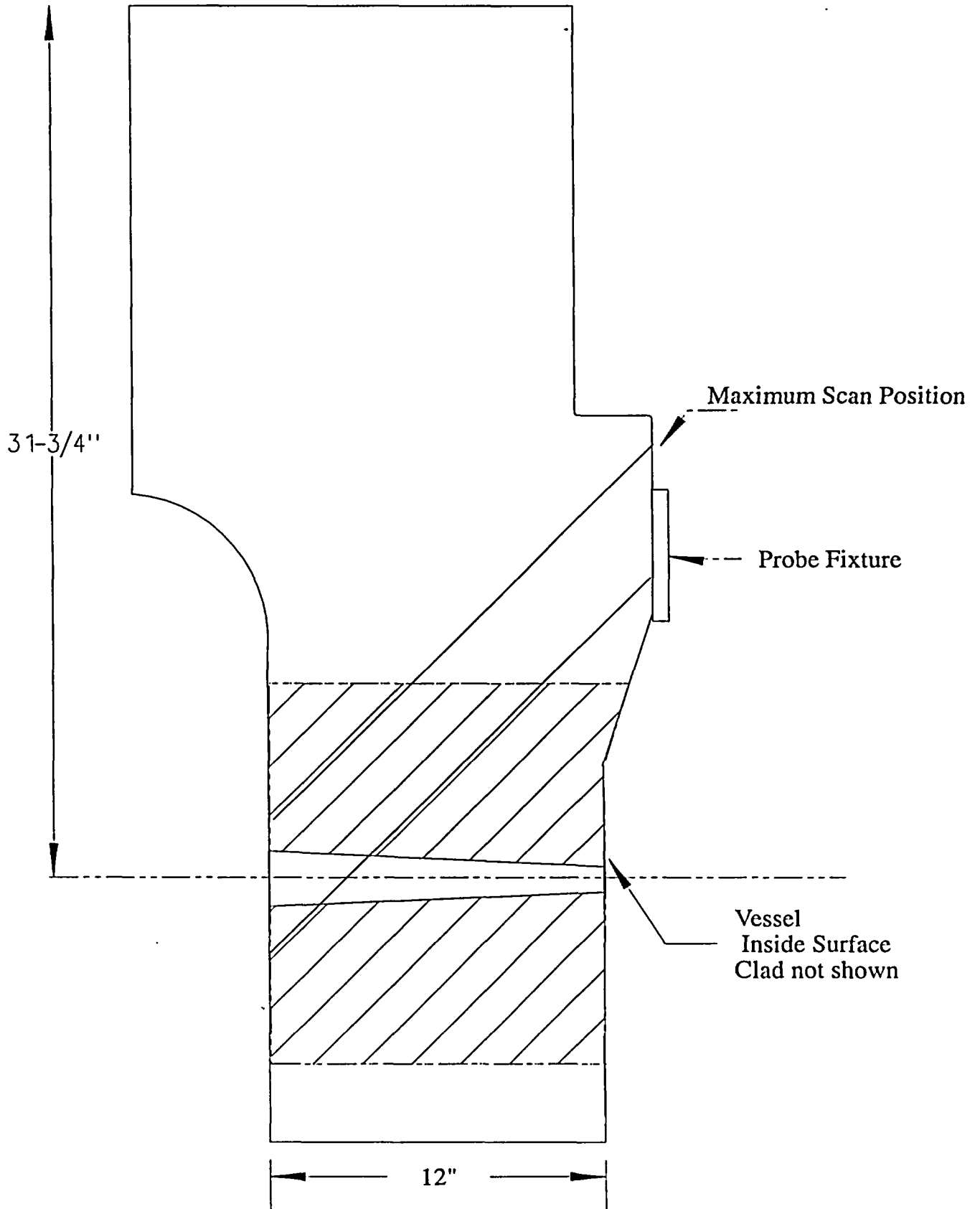
Catawba Unit 2 Reactor Pressure Vessel
Flange-to-Upper Shell Weld

Attachment 2



CNS-1, MNS-2
Flange to upper shell weld.

Attachment 3



Oconee Unit 3 Reactor Pressure Vessel
Flange-to-Upper Shell Weld