

March 24, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: Robert A. Gramm, Chief, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 16, 2005, CATEGORY 1 PRE-SUBMITTAL MEETING WITH STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY ASSOCIATES (SIA) AND ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI) ON A FUTURE TECHNICAL REPORT (TR) ON PRE-EMPTIVE WELD OVERLAYS (PWOLs) FOR ALLOY-82/182 BUTT WELDS

On March 16, 2005, representatives of SIA and EPRI met with the NRC staff to outline the objectives and technical approach of a future TR that will address PWOLs for Alloy-82/182 butt welds. This TR will be developed to (1) provide information to establish the design basis for PWOLs on primary water stress corrosion cracking susceptible butt welds in pressurized water reactors that permanently retains American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code margins, (2) provide information to establish inspection requirements, and (3) provide information to maintain leak-before-break (LBB) status of the mitigated welds.

SIA's presentation included discussion on design requirements, verification of weld overlay effectiveness, materials and welding considerations, inspection requirements, example analyses and results, conclusions, schedule, and NRC review fees. According to SIA, the weld overlay design requirements address residual stress improvements, inspectability considerations, fatigue considerations, and LBB considerations. In addition, a demonstration program is being developed to support the TR that will include a mockup fabrication and weld overlay performed by Welding Services, Inc. SIA concluded by indicating that PWOLs will justify ASME Code inspection intervals, inspection coverage, and continued validity of LBB approvals. The staff acknowledged SIA's conclusions but articulated no position with respect to the statements. Regarding the schedule, SIA indicated that the TR sans the mockup program could be submitted by July 1, 2005, and that a supplement to the TR, that will discuss the mockup program, could be submitted by September 2005. SIA indicated that it desires NRC approval by October 2005 (to support spring 2006 outage schedules) and that the TR should be exempt from NRC fees.

During the course of SIA's presentation, the NRC staff asked for clarification of several points and provided suggestions on areas that should be addressed in the TR. Regarding the NRC's review schedule, NRC indicated that SIA's requested completion date was overly optimistic and that the NRC's review schedule will depend on other NRC priorities, the availability of NRC resources, the quality of the TR, and the need for and the quality of responses to any requests for additional information. Regarding fee waivers, the NRC indicated that it would review the fee-waiver request when the TR is submitted.

R. Gramm

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A list of meeting attendees is attached. The presentation slides are available in ADAMS under Accession Number ML050760270.

Project No. 669

Attachment: Meeting Attendees

cc w/att:

Mr. David J. Modeen  
Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer  
EPRI  
1300 W. T. Harris Boulevard  
Charlotte, NC 28262

Mr. Warren Bilanin, Director  
EPRI  
3412 Hillview Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Mr. Gary L. Vine, Executive Director  
Federal and Industry Activities, Nuclear Sector  
EPRI  
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 805  
Washington, DC 20036

Mr. Alexander Marion  
Senior Director, Engineering  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. James Lang, Director  
EPRI  
1300 W.T. Harris Boulevard  
Charlotte, NC 28262

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Washington, DC 20006-3708

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EPRI  
1300 W.T. Harris Boulevard  
Charlotte, NC 28262

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**MEETING WITH STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY ASSOCIATES (SIA) AND  
ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI)**

**LIST OF ATTENDEES**

**MARCH 16, 2005**

**SIA**

R. Hermann  
P. Riccardella

**EPRI**

S. Findlan

**OTHER**

B. Auvil (Welding Services, Inc.)  
G. Gerzen (Exelon)  
J. Riley (Nuclear Energy Institute)  
M. Hall (Dominion)  
S. McCracken (AmerenUE)  
K. Yoon (AREVA Framatome ANP)  
R. Cantrell (Calvert Cliffs)

**NRC**

T. Alexion  
T. Chan  
K. Wichman  
W. Bateman  
E. Sullivan  
J. Tsao  
J. Fair  
C. Hammer  
C. Moyer  
W. Koo  
A. Hiser