

November 6, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: John T. Larkins, Executive Director
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

FROM: Michele G. Evans, Director /RA/ WBateman for /s/
Division of Component Integrity
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF PROPOSED NEW STANDARD REVIEW PLAN
NUREG-0800 SECTION, 3.13 "THREADED FASTENERS - ASME
CODE CLASS 1, 2, AND 3"

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit a new section of NUREG-0800, Standard Review Plan (SRP), Section 3.13 Rev.0, "Threaded Fasteners - ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3."- to the ACRS for their consideration. This document is technically complete, formatted in conformance with LIC-200, "Standard Review Plan Process," and is designated "publically available."

In accordance with the staff requirements memorandum dated May 10, 2005, on the April 6, 2005 Commission meeting, the Office of New Reactors (NRO) has proposed a new SRP Section 3.13 (Enclosure).

This section has been prepared in accordance with NRR Office Instruction, LIC-200. The administrative update is comprised of assigning the review responsibilities by function, with reference the responsible organizations maintained separately from the SRP itself to minimize impacts of office reorganizations, and editorial and formatting changes. The revision also adds standard paragraphs to extend application of the updated SRP section to prospective submissions by applicants pursuant to 10 CFR Part 52.

The new SRP 3.13 "Threaded Fasteners - ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3" provides guidance for reviewing and evaluating the adequacy of an applicant's criteria for selecting the materials of fabrication of its threaded fasteners (i.e., threaded bolts, studs, etc.). It also compiles criteria of the ASME Codes, Section III and Section XI pertaining to Class 1, 2, and 3 fasteners and of any previously issued staff position.

The new section incorporates information from the following documents: Regulatory Guide 1.37 (Quality Assurance Requirements for Cleaning of Fluid Systems and Associated Components of Water-Cooled Nuclear Power Plants), Regulatory Guide 1.65 (Materials and Inspections for Reactor Vessel Closure Studs), Generic Letter No. 91-17 (Generic Safety Issue 29, Bolting Degradation or Failure in Nuclear Power Plants) and NUREG-1339 (Resolution of Generic Safety Issue 29: Bolting Degradation or Failure in Nuclear Power Plants).

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The information from these documents also supported revisions to various sections of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code that are related to bolting integrity, which are endorsed by the regulations in 10 CFR Part 50. Therefore, there are no new staff positions in SRP Section 3.13.

In summary, the SRP Section 3.13 will be a compilation of existing SRP provisions, generic communications, Regulatory Guides, and issues related to and analyses identified in the SER of approved design certifications.

Based on the content of the proposed SRP Section 3.13, the staff recommends that ACRS elect not to review it. However, if the ACRS determines that there is a need to review the proposed SRP Section 3.13, then please inform the technical contact and NRR will support a subsequent ACRS briefing. Also, as noted above, the staff has determined that the SRP Section 3.13 does not involve any new staff positions; therefore, we will not be requesting a review by the Committee to Review Generic Requirements. Note that all SRP sections will be issued as final versions without draft publication and request for comment. The staff is proposing the SRP in this manner to provide a more up-to-date SRP in light of the requirement in 10 CFR 50.34(h) for an applicant to evaluate its facility against the new SRP Section 3.13 in effect six months before the docket date of the application. The staff will nonetheless request comment on this final SRP section and will address comments received in a subsequent SRP revision. Prior to revision to individual sections, comment resolution may establish a basis for finding that alternatives to the NUREG-0800 acceptance criteria provide an acceptable method of complying with the NRC's regulations.

For questions concerning this document please contact of Prakash Patnaik at 301-415-2725 or Manny Comar at 301-415-3863.

Enclosure:
As stated