

November 7, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Sher Bahadur
Committee to Review Generic Requirements

FROM: David B. Matthews, Director /RA/
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

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 Committee To Review Generic Requirements (CRGR) 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.

The staff has determined that the changes do not involve any backfits, therefore we request a waiver of review by the CRGR. If the CRGR determines that there is a need to review the proposed revision[s] to the SRP, then please inform the technical contact and NRR will support a subsequent CRGR briefing in advance of issuance. Note that most SRP sections will be issued as final versions without publishing them as draft and requesting comment. The staff is revising 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 SRP revision in effect six months before the docket date of the application. In addition, this memo and its enclosure will be made publicly available as a preliminary SRP section revision. It will be formally published following reconciliation against the ongoing Part 52 rulemaking and regulatory guide updates including Regulatory Guide 1.206, "Combined License Applications for Nuclear Power Plants (LWR Edition)." After formal issuance, the SRP will be available for public comment. Comment resolution will be addressed in subsequent SRP revisions. Prior to revision to individual sections, comment resolution may establish a basis for how alternatives to the NUREG-0800 acceptance criteria provide an acceptable method of complying with the NRC's regulations.

Separately, we have recommended that ACRS elect not to review the proposed new SRP section.

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

Enclosure:
As stated