

(PA-LR)

From: "Ellis, Douglas" <dellis1@entergy.com>
To: "Ram Subbaratnam" <RXS2@nrc.gov>
Date: 8/10/2006 12:11:59 PM
Subject: FW: Requested Information from Pilgrim License Renewal Program Document PRPD-06

Doug Ellis, Pilgrim Licensing.

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MESSAGE	589	8/10/2006 12:11:42 PM
Scan001.TIF	266912	
Mime.822	1	

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assumed 40-year plant life was less than 0.5. Extending plant life by an additional 20 years would produce a usage factor below 0.75. Since this is less than 1.0, the fatigue criteria are satisfied. This TLAA has been projected through the period of extended operation in accordance with 10CFR54.21(c)(1)(ii).

2.4 PNPS Inservice Inspection - Fracture Mechanics Analyses

Plant Technical Specifications (Ref. 4.2.2, 3.6(G) and 4.6(G)) require an inservice inspection/testing program to verify the integrity of the reactor coolant pressure boundary. Specifically, 10CFR50.55a(g) (Ref. 4.4.4) requires ISI per ASME Section XI, and 10CFR50.36(c)(3) (Ref. 4.4.3) provides general surveillance requirements. In accordance with 10CFR50.55a, the ISI Program Plan is reviewed every 120 months and revised, as necessary, to meet the latest NRC authorized edition of ASME Section XI. This revision is submitted to the NRC for approval.

The examination categories defined in Table IWB-2500-1 require the use of nondestructive examination (NDE) techniques to detect and characterize flaws. The flaws may be service-induced (e.g., fatigue) or may be fabrication flaws that have grown due to service loads. Table IWB-2500-1 specifies the extent and frequency of inspection. The Code does not restrict the inspection intervals to the current term of operation. The inspection intervals are valid for any period of extended operation.

Flaws detected during examination are evaluated by comparing the examination results to acceptance standards established in ASME Section XI. Unacceptable indications require detailed analysis (e.g., ASME Section XI, Appendix A), repair, or replacement.

This section reviews analyses of flaws discovered during inservice inspections (ISI) at PNPS. Class 1, 2, or 3 components require evaluation in accordance with ASME Section XI, Subsections IWB, IWC, or IWD, respectively. For any indication discovered during ISI that exceeds acceptance standards, Section XI requires that (1) repairs be made, (2) affected portions of the item be replaced, or (3) the indication be shown acceptable through fracture mechanics analysis (FMA).

Acceptance through FMA requires prediction of flaw growth considering either a chosen evaluation period (i.e., no shorter than the time until the next inspection following discovery of the flaw), or the remaining service life of the component. Flaw indications that are determined not to grow beyond acceptance limits during the evaluation period are justified for continued operation. FMA evaluations performed for the current operating term may be TLAA. Below are results of the review of these potential TLAA.

2.4.1 CRD Return Line Nozzle to End Cap Weld

In 2003, PNPS discovered a crack on the inside diameter of the weld between the CRD return line nozzle and the end cap. PNPS relief request #36 (PRR-36) requested relief from the repair criteria of 10CFR50.55a(c)3 as it pertains to the control rod drive return nozzle cap (Refs. 4.2.19 and 4.2.20). This relief request cited code cases N-638 and N-504-2, but also requested exemptions to the code cases. The CRD nozzle cap was repaired using a weld overlay as opposed to grinding out the defect and re-welding. There was no specific TLAA addressed in this relief request. Future acceptability of the weld is assured through inspections per the guidelines of BWRVIP-75 (Ref. 4.5.15).