



South Texas Project Electric Generating Station P.O. Box 289 Wadsworth, Texas 77483

November 1, 2006  
NOC-AE-06002076  
File No.: G25  
10 CFR 50.55a

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

South Texas Project  
Units 1 and 2  
Docket Nos. STN 50-498, STN 50-499  
Examination Results of a Pressurizer Nozzle Safe-End Weld Overlay  
(RR-ENG-2-43) (TAC Nos. MD1414-1423)

- References: (1) Letter dated May 1, 2006, from M. J. Berg, STPNOC, to NRC Document Control Desk, "Proposed Alternative to ASME Section XI Requirements for Application of a Weld Overlay (RR-ENG-2-43)," (NOC-AE-06002000)
- (2) Letter dated August 22, 2006, from M. J. Berg, STPNOC, to NRC Document Control Desk, "Response to Request for Additional Information on Proposed Alternative to ASME Section XI Requirements for Application of a Weld Overlay (RR-ENG-2-43)," (NOC-AE-06002055)
- (3) Letter dated September 28, 2006, from David W. Rencurrel, STPNOC, to NRC Document Control Desk, "Response to Request for Additional Information: Proposed Alternative to ASME Section XI Requirements for Application of a Weld Overlay (RR-ENG-2-43)," (NOC-AE-06002068)

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), the STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) requested approval to use an alternative to the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code), Section XI for the structural weld overlays on the South Texas Project Unit 1 and Unit 2 pressurizer spray, relief, safety and surge nozzle safe-ends. The request and supporting information were provided in references 1 and 2. Verbal approval was given in subsequent discussions with the NRC. As stated in the commitments documented in reference 3, STPNOC provides the results of weld overlay activities completed in the recent Unit 1 refueling outage (1RE13).

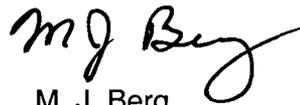
The initial intent of the request for relief was for it to apply to six pressurizer nozzle safe ends in Unit 1 and in Unit 2. The Unit 1 task was subsequently reduced to three such safe ends for 1RE13. As the work progressed, two of the overlay welds were found to pose accessibility difficulties that could not be resolved consistent with the outage completion as scheduled and provide assurance that the weld would meet quality standards. Consequently, only the surge line nozzle safe-end weld overlay was completed during 1RE13.

STPNOC completed the ultrasonic examination for the STP Unit 1 pressurizer surge nozzle weld overlay on October 24, 2006. Two indications were detected. The indications were found to be acceptable per the standards of ASME Section XI, IWB-3514-2 and/or IWB-3514-3 criteria for their respective size and position. The indications are laminar-type flaws located in the first

weld layer at the base metal interface. No repairs to the overlay material and/or base metal were required or performed.

There are no commitments in this submittal.

If there are any questions, please contact either Mr. Philip Walker at (361) 972-8392 or me at (361) 972-7030.



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PLW

cc:  
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