

From: Joseph Petrosino
To: Doug E. Lee
Date: 1/30/2007 7:39:05 AM
Subject: Re: Phone Message

Doug:

Below are the questions/concerns that Mel Holmberg, NRC Region III Inspector voiced to me yesterday. What I would like to propose is request that you respond to the questions from Mel, and then follow up your e-mail response with a telephone call between you, Paul Neubrand, Mel and me. Here are Mel's questions:

Questions for Doug Lee from Mel Holmberg, RIII, DRS EB1 1-30-2007

- 1) Did B&W accept any crack indications within the butter layer for the J-groove weld of the Palisades head forging ?
- 2) If cracking was accepted, can you explain how these crack indications affect UT of J-groove welds which serve as baseline examinations supporting NRC Order 03-009.
- 3) If cracking was accepted by B&W in the butter layer, can you expound somewhat to discuss how the cracking meets Applicable Code requirements and/or why it is not structurally significant to avoid generating concerns. For example a PT examination of the butter layer may be required by ASME Section III, NB 5231(d) or NB 5245. If so, the acceptance criteria would be NB 5352, which considers any crack or linear indications unacceptable. Note that, these hot tears/cracking may be below the threshold for PT evaluation (e.g < 1/16 inch).
- 4) If no crack indications were left in the final weld butter layer of the J-groove weld for the Palisades head forging after B&W corrected the welding process, the NRC wants to make sure that fact is clearly identified to avoid additional concerns in the future.

Thanks,
Joe Petrosino
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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(301) 415-3325 (Fax)

>>> "Lee, Doug E." <DELee@babcock.com> 1/29/2007 6:42 PM >>>
Joe:

I received your voice message today and am sending you this email to allow you to direct your additional questions to me.

D. E. Lee

Manager Nuclear Engineering

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CC: Crutchley, Julie; Cwalina, Gregory; Holmberg, Melvin