

2008-078 _____ BWR Vessel & Internals Project (BWRVIP)

March 6, 2008

Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

PROJECT 704

Attention: Jon Thompson

Subject: Withdrawal of BWRVIP-168

Reference: Letter from Ho. K. Nieh (NRC) to Rick Libra (BWRVIP Chairman), "Request for the Review of Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Topical Report (TR) 1013390, "BWRVIP-168: BWR (Boiling Water Reactor) Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP), Guidelines for Disposition of Inaccessible Core Spray Piping Welds in BWR Internals" (TAC NO. MD6569)," dated January 24, 2008

The purpose of this letter is to inform the NRC that the BWRVIP is withdrawing the following report from NRC review:

1. "BWRVIP-168: BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Guidelines for Disposition of Inaccessible Core Spray Piping Welds in BWR Internals," EPRI Technical Report 1013390, March 2007.

The BWRVIP is withdrawing this report because the NRC denied the BWRVIP request for review of the BWRVIP-168 report for the reasons stated in the NRC letter referenced above.

Risk-informed inservice inspection (RI-ISI) was included in BWRVIP-168 to demonstrate the low consequence of core spray piping failure in BWR internals but not directly used to develop the proposed deterministic inspection approach for disposition of inaccessible core spray piping welds. The BWRVIP plans to extract parts of the deterministic inspection approach from BWRVIP-168 such as the inspection program (Section 8) and the leak rate methodology (Section 9) and include them in a revision to "BWRVIP-18-A: BWR Vessel and Internals Project BWR Core Spray Internals Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines." While the BWRVIP incorporates sections of BWRVIP-168 into BWRVIP-18-A, the BWRVIP utilities will continue to implement the NRC approved guidance in BWRVIP-18-A. The BWRVIP will submit the revision to BWRVIP-18-A to the NRC as soon as practical.

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If you have any questions on this subject please call Chuck Wirtz (FirstEnergy, BWRVIP
Integration Committee Technical Chairman) at 440.280.7665.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Libra". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent dot over the 'i' in "Libra".

Rick Libra
Exelon
Chairman, BWR Vessel and Internals Project