July 30, 2008

Mr. Rick Libra
Exelon
Chairman, BWR Vessel and Internals Project
Electric Power Research Institute
3420 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1395

SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION FOR ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE BOILING WATER REACTOR (BWR) VESSEL AND INTERNALS PROJECT (BWRVIP) TOPICAL REPORT (TR) "BWRVIP-139: BWR VESSEL AND INTERNALS PROJECT, STEAM DRYER INSPECTION AND FLAW EVALUATION GUIDELINES" (TAC NO. MC7334)

Dear Mr. Libra:

By letter dated May 11, 2005 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML051380174), the BWRVIP submitted TR "BWRVIP-139: BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Steam Dryer Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines," to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff for review. The purpose of the TR is to provide utility engineers with guidelines in planning for comprehensive baseline visual inspections of steam dryer assemblies. The TR provides guidelines for inspecting critical locations in the steam dryer based on configurations and relative stresses due to operating fluctuating loads to minimize the risk of loose parts.

By letter dated June 30, 2005 (ADAMS Accession No. ML051860129), the NRC staff provided its acceptance review for TR BWRVIP-139. By letter dated September 28, 2005 (ADAMS Accession No. ML052760159), the BWRVIP submitted to the NRC staff a errata to TR BWRVIP-139 with revised Table 5.1. By letter dated April 13, 2006 (ADAMS Accession No. ML061140069), the NRC staff sent a request for additional information (RAI) to the BWRVIP. By letter dated August 9, 2007 (ADAMS Accession No. ML072250216), the BWRVIP stated that the response to the RAI would be sent to the NRC staff by November 30, 2007. The NRC staff received the response to the RAI by letter dated November 30, 2007 (ADAMS Accession No. ML073381267). In addition, by letter dated April 23, 2008 (ADAMS Accession No. ML081190085), the BWRVIP submitted supplemental information related to the NRC staff RAI.

Notice: Enclosure 2 transmitted herewith contains proprietary information. When separated from Enclosure 2, this document is decontrolled.

The NRC staff reviewed, evaluated, and determined that the guidelines provided in TR BWRVIP-139 are performing their intended function of aiding the inspection and detection of flaws evaluation in the reactor vessel internals. The NRC staff finds that TR BWRVIP-139 is acceptable for referencing in licensing documentation for General Electric-designed boiling water reactors to the extent specified in this TR and in the enclosed SE. The SE defines the basis for our acceptance of TR BWRVIP-139.

Our acceptance applies only to material provided in the TR BWRVIP-139. We do not intend to repeat our review of the acceptable material described in the TR. When the TR appears as a reference in licensing documentation, our review will ensure that the material presented applies to the specific plant involved. Licensees will be expected to implement the provisions of BWRVIP-139, as specified in the enclosed SE, as part of their BWRVIP program unless deviations from the program are justified. Licensees shall identify such deviations to the NRC staff in accordance with BWRVIP program requirements.

In accordance with the guidance provided on the NRC website, we request that the BWRVIP publish accepted proprietary and non-proprietary versions of TR BWRVIP-139 within three months of receipt of this letter. The accepted versions shall incorporate this letter and the enclosed final SE after the title page. Also, they must contain historical review information, including the NRC staff RAI and your response and supplement. The accepted versions shall include an "-A" (designating accepted) following the BWRVIP report identification symbol.

If future changes to the NRC's regulatory requirements affect the acceptability of this BWRVIP TR, the BWRVIP and/or licensees referencing it will be expected to revise the TR appropriately, or justify its continued applicability for subsequent referencing.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mark J. Maxin, Acting Deputy Director
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 704

Enclosures: 1. Non-proprietary SE
2. Proprietary SE

cc w/encl 1 only: See next page

The NRC staff reviewed, evaluated, and determined that the guidelines provided in TR BWRVIP-139 are performing their intended function of aiding the inspection and detection of flaws evaluation in the reactor vessel internals. The NRC staff finds that TR BWRVIP-139 is acceptable for referencing in licensing documentation for General Electric-designed boiling water reactors to the extent specified in this TR and in the enclosed SE. The SE defines the basis for our acceptance of TR BWRVIP-139.

Our acceptance applies only to material provided in the TR BWRVIP-139. We do not intend to repeat our review of the acceptable material described in the TR. When the TR appears as a reference in licensing documentation, our review will ensure that the material presented applies to the specific plant involved. Licensees will be expected to implement the provisions of BWRVIP-139, as specified in the enclosed SE, as part of their BWRVIP program unless deviations from the program are justified. Licensees shall identify such deviations to the NRC staff in accordance with BWRVIP program requirements.

In accordance with the guidance provided on the NRC website, we request that the BWRVIP publish accepted proprietary and non-proprietary versions of TR BWRVIP-139 within three months of receipt of this letter. The accepted versions shall incorporate this letter and the enclosed final SE after the title page. Also, they must contain historical review information, including the NRC staff RAI and your response and supplement. The accepted versions shall include an "-A" (designating accepted) following the BWRVIP report identification symbol.

If future changes to the NRC's regulatory requirements affect the acceptability of this BWRVIP TR, the BWRVIP and/or licensees referencing it will be expected to revise the TR appropriately, or justify its continued applicability for subsequent referencing.

Sincerely, **/RA/**
Mark J. Maxin, Acting Deputy Director
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 704
Enclosures: 1. Non-proprietary SE
2. Proprietary SE
cc w/encl 1 only: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:
PUBLIC RidsNrrDpr RidsAcrsAcnwMailCenter RidsOgcMailCenter
PSPB Reading File RidsNrrDprPspb SRosenberg (HardCopy) VPerin
PHiland MEvans RidsNrrDciCpnb RidsNrrDci
RidsNrrDeEmcb RidsNrrDe TChan Manoly
RidsNrrLADBaxley
Package Accession No. ML082040414
Letter Accession No. ML080810172
Non-proprietary SE Accession No. ML082070332
Proprietary SE Accession No. ML082040417 *No major changes to SE input

OFFICE	PSPB/LA	PSPB/PM	EMCB/BC	CPNB/BC	PSPB/BC	DPR/DD(A)
NAME	DBaxley	VPerin	KManoly*	TChan*	SRosenberg	MMaxin
DATE	07/25/08	07/28 /08	07/07/08	07/07/08	07/ 30 /08	07/ 30 /08

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

cc:
Randy Stark, EPRI BWRVIP
Integration Manager
Raj Pathania, EPRI BWRVIP
Mitigation Manager
Ken Wolfe, EPRI BWRVIP
Repair Manager
Larry Steinert, EPRI BWRVIP
Electric Power Research Institute
3420 Hillview Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94304
rstark@epri.com
rpathani@epri.com
kwolfe@contractor.epri.com
ldsteine@contractor.epri.com

Bob Geier, Technical Chairman
BWRVIP Assessment Committee
Exelon Corporation
Cornerstone II at Cantera
4300 Winfield Rd.
Warrenville, IL 60555
robert.geier@exeloncorp.com

Dennis Rickertsen, Technical Chairman
BWRVIP Mitigation Committee
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
P. O. Box 1295 (M/S B234)
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295
ddricker@southernco.com

Paul J. Davison, Executive Chairman
BWRVIP Assessment Committee
PSEG Nuclear, LLC
Salem/Hope Creek Nuclear Station
11 Yubas Ave.
Burlington, NJ 08016
paul.davison@pseg.com

Denver Atwood, Chairman
BWRVIP Repair Focus Group
Southern Nuclear Operating Co.
Post Office Box 1295
40 Inverness Center Parkway
(M/S B031)
Birmingham, AL 35242-4809
dgatwood@southernco.com

Dennis Madison, Executive Chairman
BWRVIP Mitigation Committee
Site Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Co.
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant
US Hwy 1 N
Baxley, GA 31515-2010
drmadiso@southernco.com

Rich Ciemiewicz, Chairman
BWRVIP Inspection Focus Group
Exelon Corporation
200 Exelon Way, Suite 210 (M/S KSA 2-N)
Kennett Square, PA 19349
richard.ciemiewicz@exeloncorp.com

Charles J. Wirtz, Technical Chairman
BWRVIP Integration Committee
FirstEnergy Corp.
Perry Nuclear Power Plant
(M/S A250)
10 Center Road
Perry, OH 44081
cjwirtz@firstenergycorp.com

Oscar Limpias, Executive Chairman
BWRVIP Integration Committee
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Echelon One
1340 Echelon Parkway.
Jackson, MS 39213-8202
olimpia@entergy.com

Joe Donahue
BWRVIP Vice Chairman
V. P., Nuclear Engineering & Services
Progress Energy, Inc.
410 S. Wilmington St. (M/S PEB6)
Raleigh, NC 27601-1849
joe.w.donahue@pgnmail.com

Richard Anderson
BWRVIP Executive Oversight Committee
Site Vice President
FPL Energy Duane Arnold
Duane Arnold Energy Center
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, IA 52324-9785
rich_anderson@fpl.com

Robert Carter, EPRI BWRVIP
Assessment Manager
Jeff Landrum, EPRI BWRVIP
Inspection Manager
EPRI NDE Center
P.O. Box 217097
1300 W. T. Harris Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28221
bcarter@epri.com
jlandrum@epri.com