

May 1, 2008

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

ATTENTION:

Document Control Desk

SUBJECT:

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Unit No. 2: Docket No. 50-318

Request to Extend the Third Ten-Year Inservice Inspection Interval for Reactor Vessel Weld and Visual Examinations

REFERENCES:

- (a) Westinghouse Owners Group Topical Report, WCAP-16168-NP, Revision 1, dated January 2006, Risk-Informed Extension of Reactor Vessel In-Service Inspection Interval
- (b) Letter from D. Mauldin, (PVNGS) to Document Control Desk (NRC), dated May 4, 2006, Request to Extend the Second 10-Year, American Society of Mechanical Engineers Section XI, Inservice Inspection Program Interval for Reactor Vessel Weld Examinations – Relief Request No. 34
- (c) Letter from D. Mauldin (PVNGS) to Document Control Desk (NRC), dated May 26, 2006, Request to Extend the Second 10-Year, American Society of Mechanical Engineers Section XI, Inservice Inspection Program Interval for Reactor Vessel Visual Examinations Relief Request No. 35
- (d) Letter from D. J. Malone (NMC) to Document Control Desk (NRC), dated March 31, 2005, Request for Authorization to Extend the Third 10-Year ISI Interval for Reactor Vessel Weld Examination
- (e) Letter from D. J. Malone (NMC) to Document Control Desk (NRC), dated March 31, 2005, Request for Authorization to Extend the Third 10-Year ISI Interval for Reactor Vessel Visual Examination

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant (CCNPP) is requesting approval to use an alternative to the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, Paragraph IWB-2412, Inspection Program B, for CCNPP Unit 2. The alternative requests relief to defer examinations of the Unit 2 reactor pressure vessel (RPV) welds under ASME Section XI examination categories B-A and B-D for one fuel cycle as described in Attachment (1).

Further, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii), CCNPP is requesting approval to delay compliance with the specified requirements of ASME Section XI, Paragraph IWB-2500-1, for CCNPP Unit 2. Relief is

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requested to defer visual examinations of the Unit 2 RPV welds under ASME Section XI examination categories B-N-2 and B-N-3, Item Nos. B13.50, B13.60, and B13.70 for one fuel cycle as described in Attachment (2).

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has communicated to the Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group (PWROG) that the staff would agree to review licensee relief requests for a one cycle extension of the RPV weld examinations to provide additional time for completing evaluations and staff review associated with Reference (a).

Calvert Cliffs' proposed extension of the inservice inspection interval for these examinations will continue to provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, as described in the enclosed relief requests.

Calvert Cliffs requests the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff approval by September 1, 2008, in order to support preparation activities for the spring 2009 Unit 2 refueling outage. It is also our understanding that CCNPP would have an opportunity to request additional relief if review and approval of the PWROG topical report does not support our inspection interval.

Calvert Cliffs' subject relief requests are similar to other industry requests as noted by References (b) through (e).

Should you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Jay S. Gaines at (410) 495-5219.

Very truly yours,

for Mark D. Flaherty Manager-Engineering Services

MDF/ALS/bjd

Attachments:

- (1) Proposed Alternative ISI-020 in Accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) Alternative Provides Acceptable Level of Quality and Safety
- (2) Proposed Alternative ISI-021 in Accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) Compliance with the Specified Requirements Would Result in Hardship or Unusual Difficulty Without a Compensating Increase in the Level of Quality and Safety

cc:

D. V. Pickett, NRC

S. J. Collins, NRC Resident Inspector, NRC S. Gray, DNR

Safety Program Manager, State of Maryland