June 12, 2008

MEMORANDUM TO: Allen L. Hiser, Jr., Chief
Steam Generator Tube Integrity and
Chemical Engineering Branch
Division of Component Integrity
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Emma L. Wong, Chemical Engineer **/RA/**
Steam Generator Tube Integrity and
Chemical Engineering Branch
Division of Component Integrity
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE MAY 14, 2008 CATEGORY 2 PUBLIC MEETING WITH THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE (NEI) AND INDUSTRY TO DISCUSS STEAM GENERATOR ISSUES

The NEI Steam Generator Task Force (SGTF) met with staff from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) staff on May 14, 2008 at Westinghouse's offices in Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss (1) eddy current noise monitoring for tube integrity, (2) steam generator divider plate evaluation, (3) handling of operating experience, (4) proposed revision to technical specifications for tube sampling, and (5) SGTF action items. The Enclosure provides a list of those in attendance. This meeting was noticed as a public meeting and the meeting agenda is available in the NRC Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession Number ML081200673. Other than industry representatives, no members of the public were present.

Information presented by industry during the meeting is available in the NRC Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession Numbers ML081410451 and ML081410473.

During the meeting, the following items were discussed/clarified:

Eddy Current Noise Monitoring

- The NRC staff inquired whether it would be feasible to obtain a demonstration of the eddy current noise measurement software that the industry developed. The industry indicated that this should be possible.

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Divider Plate Evaluation

- The mockups used to assess the feasibility of inspecting the divider plate welds using ultrasonic phased array inspection technology had an Alloy 600 and a stainless steel weld. The welds are acoustically similar. The results of these tests were to demonstrate feasibility and not to qualify the technique. The system used to deliver the phased array inspection technology will need to be developed for performing the inspections.

Handling of Operating Experience

- The tube support plate fouling project completion is dependent on input from Electricite de France. The industry is evaluating a model 51 steam generator with quatrefoil-shaped tube support plate holes with and without tubes in various locations within the steam generator and with varying levels of flow blockage.

- Regarding operating experience at a foreign plant related to loose parts due to a degraded auxiliary feedwater flow distributor, the industry indicated it was evaluating the applicability of this operating experience to U.S. plants.

- The industry indicated that the next revision to the Integrity Assessment Guidelines would clarify their expectations concerning how plants should address emergent operating experience. The NRC staff asked the industry to evaluate whether it would be useful to communicate this guidance in an “interim guidance” letter.

Proposed Revision to Technical Specifications

- Regarding the industry’s proposal to generically revise the technical specification requirements pertaining to steam generator tube inspections, the NRC staff asked whether this effort included clarifying that prorating of inspections is acceptable when a degradation mechanism is identified after the first inspection in a period. In addition, the staff asked the industry whether the industry still had a need for more formal documentation of the NRC staff’s position on several steam generator tube inspection issues ADAMS Accession Number (ML073110083). The industry indicated they would discuss the NRC staff’s comments, and they asked the NRC staff to provide a summary of any other improvements that could be made to the affected portion of the technical specifications (based on the industry submittals to adopt Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) Traveler TSTF-449).

SGTF Action Items

- Regarding Issue #1 on site qualified techniques ADAMS Accession Number (ML081410451), the NRC staff asked that the industry keep this issue open pending completion of the industry’s effort on demonstrating equivalency of techniques. The industry indicated that this seemed reasonable.

- Regarding Issue #2 on the relationship between accident-induced leakage and

operational leakage ADAMS Accession Number (ML081410451), the NRC staff indicated that there still seems to be confusion in the industry on how to effectively address this issue. The NRC staff agreed to provide the industry an example of one recent interaction on this issue. Following the meeting, a summary of the issue that was discussed during a license amendment review was provided to the industry (the issue related to potentially having to limit the rate of operational leakage as a result of its potential contribution to the accident-induced leakage rate).

- Regarding Issue #11 on the use of control data (Judas tube), the NRC staff indicated that there may be some value in having a protocol/procedure for inserting control data into the inspection for cases where inspection reliability may be questioned (e.g., reliability of detecting small flaws, potential complacency issues). The industry indicated that they would consider the NRC staff's comments.

- Regarding Issue #12 on the acceptability of tube inspection plans given the requirements in TSTF-449, the NRC staff agreed that this issue could be closed.

- Regarding Issue #13 ADAMS Accession Number (ML081410451), the NRC staff indicated that the industry should consider changing the title from "Site Specific Technique Qualification – Technique Extension" to a more representative title since the topic addressed under this issue is related to loose parts and since site specific technique qualification is being addressed under issue #1.

November was identified as a tentative timeframe for the next NRC-SGTF meeting, following fall outages.

Project No. 689

Enclosure:
Attendance List

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Attendance List

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ADAMS ACCESSION NO.:ML081640344

OFFICE	NRR/ADES/DCI/CSGB	NRR/ADES/DCI	NRR/ADES/DCI/CSGB
NAME	E. Wong /RA/	K. Karwoski /RA/	A. Hiser /RA/
DATE	6/12/2008	6/12/2008	6/12/2008

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Attendance List
May 14, 2008 Meeting with NEI, SGTF, and Industry

SGTF/Industry
Helen Cothron, EPRI
Chris Casino, WEC
Scott A. Redner, NMC
David Crawley, SNC
Jim Albert, B&W
Gary L. Boyers, FPL
Mike Melton, NEI
H. Lagally, Westinghouse
Dan Mayes, Duke Energy
Steve Swilley, EPRI
Jeff Fleck, AREVA
Pete Riccardella, Structural Integrity
Russell Lieder, FPL Energy
Andrea Heap, Luminant
Nick Idvorian, B&W
S. Leshnoff, Exelon
Patrick Fabian, PSEG
Jim Begley, AREVA
David Chrzanowski, Exelon
Don Gerber, Dominion
Jim Benson, EPRI

NRC
Emma Wong
Greg Makar
Margaret Stambaugh
Allen Hiser
Emmett Murphy
Ken Karwoski

ENCLOSURE