



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 15, 2009

Mr. Gene F. St. Pierre
Site Vice President
c/o Michael O'Keefe
Seabrook Station
FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC
P.O. Box 300
Seabrook, NH 03874

SUBJECT: SEABROOK STATION, UNIT NO. 1 - RELIEF REQUEST FOR USE OF
SUBSEQUENT EDITION OF CODE FOR THE SECOND INSERVICE
INSPECTION INTERVAL (TAC NO. MD9783)

Dear Mr. St. Pierre:

By letter dated September 30, 2008 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML082760468) FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC (FPL Energy Seabrook), submitted a relief request from certain examination requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Code) at the Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1. Specifically, the licensee proposed using a subsequent edition of the ASME Code for examining the pressurizer skirt weld. The request is for the remainder of the second 10-year inservice inspection interval.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis in support of the request for relief. The request is approved pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 50, Section 55a(g)(4)(iv).

The NRC staffs' evaluation and conclusions are contained in the enclosed safety evaluation. This completes the NRC staff's efforts on TAC No. MD9783.

If you have any questions, please contact the Seabrook Project Manager, Mr. Dennis Egan, at 301-415-2443.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold K. Chernoff".

Harold K. Chernoff, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch I-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443
Enclosure: As stated
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UNITED STATES
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SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELIEF REQUEST FOR USE OF SUBSEQUENT EDITION OF CODE

FOR THE SECOND INSERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL

FPL ENERGY SEABROOK, LLC

SEABROOK STATION, UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-443

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated September 30, 2008 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML082760468) FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC (FPL Energy Seabrook), submitted a relief request from certain examination requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Code) at the Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1 (Seabrook). Specifically, the licensee proposed using a subsequent edition of the ASME Code for examining the pressurizer skirt attachment weld. The request is for the remainder of the second 10-year inservice inspection (ISI) interval which began August 18, 2000, and is scheduled to end August 17, 2010.

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 50, Section 50.55a(g), "Inservice Inspection Requirements," requires, in part, that ASME Class 1, 2, and 3 components must meet the inspection examination requirements set forth in the applicable editions and addenda of the ASME Code, except where the use of subsequent editions and addenda of the Code have been authorized by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv).

10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv) states, in part, that inservice examination of components and system pressure tests may meet the requirements set forth in subsequent editions and addenda that are incorporated by reference in paragraph (b) of the section, subject to the limitations and modifications listed in paragraph (b) of the section, and subject to Nuclear Regulatory Commission approval. Portions of editions or addenda may be used provided that all related requirements of the respective editions or addenda are met.

The Code of Record for the second 10-year ISI interval at Seabrook is the 1995 Edition through 1996 Addenda of the ASME Code, Section XI.

Enclosure

3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

3.1 Affected Component

Seabrook ISI Component identification RC E-10 SKIRT: ASME Code Class 1; Reactor Coolant (RC) System; Pressurizer skirt attachment weld; Category B-K; Item Number B10.10, Pressure Vessel Attachment Welds.

3.2 Applicable Code

The 1995 Edition through 1996 Addenda of the ASME Code, Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components," is the Code of Record for the second 10-year ISI interval.

3.3 Licensee Proposed Alternative and Basis

FPL Energy Seabrook is requesting to use a subsequent Edition and Addenda of the ASME Code, Section XI. Specifically, the use of Table IWB-2500-1 Examination Category B-K, Item B10.10 of the 2001 Edition through 2003 Addenda is requested.

The 2001 Edition through 2003 Addenda of the ASME Code, Section XI, Examination Category B-K, "Welded Attachments For Vessels, Piping, Pumps, and Valves," Item B10.10 requires a surface examination be performed on 100% of the weld length in accordance with examination methods in Note 7 of Table IWB-2500-1.

As stated in Note 7 of Table IWB-2500-1, "[f]or the configurations shown in ASME Code, Section XI, Figures IWB-2500-13 and IWB-2500-14, a surface examination from an accessible side of the attachment weld shall be performed. Alternatively, for the configuration shown in ASME Code, Section XI, Figure IWB-2500-14, a volumetric examination of volume A-B-C-D from an accessible side of the attachment weld may be performed in lieu of the surface examination of surfaces A-B or C-D."

In making this request, FPL Energy Seabrook, will comply with all related requirements of the 2001 Edition including Addenda through 2003 of the ASME Section XI Code which are listed for reference below:

1. Examination
 - a. [ASME Code, Section XI,] IWA-2300, Qualification of Nondestructive Examination Personnel
 - b. [ASME Code, Section XI,] IWA-2221, Magnetic Particle Examination, or
 - c. [ASME Code, Section XI,] IWA-2222, Liquid Penetrant Examination
2. Acceptance Standard
 - a. [ASME Code, Section XI,] IWB-3526, Standards for Examination Category B-K, Welded Attachments for Vessels, Piping, Pumps and Valves

This Edition of the ASME Code is approved for general use in 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2).

3.4 NRC Staff Evaluation

The licensee has requested to use the 2001 Edition through the 2003 Addenda of the ASME Code, Table IWB-2500-1, Examination Category B-K, Item No. B10.10 that has been approved for general use in 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2). The licensee has also committed to use the associated requirements listed below:

1. Examination
 - a. ASME Code, Section XI, Paragraph IWA-2300, Qualification of Nondestructive Examination Personnel
 - b. ASME Code, Section XI, IWA-2300, Paragraph IWA-2221, Magnetic Particle Examination, or
 - c. ASME Code, Section XI, Paragraph IWA-2222, Liquid Penetrant Examination.
2. Acceptance Standard
 - a. ASME Code, Section XI, Paragraph IWB-3526, Standards for Examination Category B-K, Welded Attachments for Vessels, Piping, Pumps and Valves.

The NRC staff has determined that the proposed use of selected portions of the 2001 Edition of the ASME Code through the 2003 Addenda, as noted above, has been approved in 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2) and that the licensee's proposal includes the use of all associated requirements. Accordingly, the licensee's request to use selected portions of the 2001 Edition of the ASME Code through the 2003 Addenda is acceptable pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv) for the second 10-Year ISI interval at Seabrook.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The NRC staff concludes that the request to use the 2001 Edition through the 2003 Addenda of the ASME Code, Section XI, Examination Category B-K, Item No. B10.10 and associated requirements that have been approved for general use in 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2) for the pressurizer skirt attachment weld inspection is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv) for the second 10-Year ISI interval at Seabrook.

All other ASME Code, Section XI requirements for which relief was not specifically requested and approved remain applicable, including third party review by the Authorized Nuclear Inservice Inspector.

Principal Contributor: Thomas K. McLellan

Date: April 15, 2009

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Mr. Gene F. St. Pierre
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c/o Michael O'Keefe
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Sincerely,
/ra/
Harold K. Chernoff, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch I-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosure: As stated

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