

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 1, 2009

Vice President, Operations Arkansas Nuclear One Entergy Operations, Inc. 1448 S.R. 333 Russellville, AR 72802

SUBJECT: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT NO. 1 - REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE

ANO1-ISI-013 FROM ASME SECTION XI TABLE IWB-2500-1, EXAMINATION

CATEGORY B-N-1 REQUIREMENTS (TAC NO. ME0659)

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter dated February 16, 2009 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML090480123), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee), requested, pursuant to paragraph 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), approval of a proposed alternative to the requirements of the 2001 Edition with the 2003 Addenda of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Code), Section XI, for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1).

In lieu of performing the B-N-1, Item B13.10 visual examination during the 22nd refueling outage for ANO-1 (1R22), the licensee stated that credit will be taken for the examinations performed during the 21st refueling outage (1R21), since this examination provides reasonable assurance of structural integrity. The licensee also stated that item B13.10 visual examination will not be performed during 1R22, but will be performed during the second period of the fourth interval in accordance with Examination Category B-N-1, Item B13.10.

Inspections of other welds will continue to be performed at intervals and dates according to Section XI of the ASME Code, approved relief requests, or other approved plant-specific licensed documents. This request for alternative is not for the requirements of Examination Category B-N-2, Items B13.50 or B13.60 or Examination Category B-N-3, Item B13.70. These examinations will be performed on the schedule provided in the ANO-1 inservice inspection (ISI) Plan.

The NRC staff has determined that if the B-N-1 visual examination is performed during 1R23, 1R25, and 1R27, it would meet all ASME Code requirements and no alternative is needed. Inspections of other welds will continue to be performed at intervals and dates according to Section XI of the ASME Code, approved relief requests, or other approved plant-specific licensed documents.

In conclusion, ANO1-ISI-013 request for relief is not required to meet the requirements in Section XI of the ASME Code.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1480 or by electronic mail at kaly.kalyanam@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

N. Kalyanam, Project Manager

Plant Licensing Branch IV

Division of Operating Reactor Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-313

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In conclusion, ANO1-ISI-013 request for relief is not required to meet the requirements in Section XI of the ASME Code.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1480 or by electronic mail at kaly.kalyanam@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

N. Kalyanam, Project Manager Plant Licensing Branch IV Division of Operating Reactor Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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