From: Kalyanam, Kaly
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2010 9:54 AM
To: MURILLO, ROBERT J; MASON, MICHAEL E (WF3)
Cc: Feintuch, Karl; Lingam, Siva; Lent, Susan; Burkhardt, Janet
Subject: Acceptance Review Result - Request for Alternative to ASME IWE-5521 Re. Post Repair Testing of the SCV Opening (ME3345)

Bob/Mike:

By letter dated February 9, 2010, Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy) submitted a Request Alternative to ASME IWE-5521 Regarding Post Repair Testing of Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 (Waterford 3) Steel Containment Vessel (SCV) Opening.

Entergy plans to replace the Waterford 3 steam generators (SGs) during the 17th refueling outage. The removal of a welded construction hatch in the SCV will be required for providing access for the original and replacement SGs in and out of containment. Entergy would be required to perform a containment integrated leak rate test (ILRT) in accordance with IWE-5221, "Leakage Test," of ASME Section XI and 1 OCFR50, Appendix J prior to reentry into Mode 4. However, the performance of a localized leakage test provides a more appropriate leak test than an ILRT for the limited repair area. Therefore, Entergy is " requesting relief from the ASME Section XI, IWE-5221 requirements to perform a localized pressure test for the associated repair of the Waterford 3 SCV.

The purpose of this email is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this request for alternative. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant. Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1480.

N. Kalyanam
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ANO-1and 2 & Waterford 3
NRC/NRR/DORL/LPL4
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E-mail Properties

Mail Envelope Properties (94A2A4408AC65F42AC084527534CF41608634C8A24)

Subject: Acceptance Review Result - Request for Alternative to ASME IWE-5521 Re. Post Repair Testing of the SCV Opening (ME3345)
Sent Date: 3/2/2010 9:53:42 AM
Received Date: 3/2/2010 9:53:42 AM
From: Kalyanam, Kaly

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Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	11832	3/2/2010

Options
Expiration Date:
Priority: olImportanceNormal
ReplyRequested: False
Return Notification: False

Sensitivity: olNormal
Recipients received: