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Robert Walpole
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May 13, 2010

NL-10-050

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Request for Additional Information on Relief Request IP3-ISI-RR-04 For Fourth Ten-Year Inservice Inspection Interval (TAC No. ME3017)
Indian Point Unit Number 3
Docket No. 50-286
License No. DPR-64

REFERENCES: 1. Entergy Letter NL-09-163 Regarding Relief Request IP3-ISI-RR-04, For Fourth Ten-Year Inservice Inspection Interval, dated December 23, 2009.
2. NRC E mail Regarding NRC Request for Additional Information on Indian Point 3 Relief Request RR-04, ME3017, dated March 16, 2010.

Dear Sir or Madam:

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy) submitted Relief Request No. IP3-ISI-RR-04 for the Indian Point Unit No. 3 (IP3) Fourth Ten-Year Inservice Inspection Interval in Reference 1. This letter is to respond to NRC questions, Reference 2, on that relief request.

There are no new commitments identified in this submittal. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Robert Walpole, Licensing Manager.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RW" followed by a stylized flourish.

RW/sp
cc next page

A047
NRR

Attachment: 1. Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding Relief Request
IP3-ISI-RR-04

cc: Mr. John P. Boska, Senior Project Manager, NRC NRR DORL
Mr. Samuel J. Collins, Regional Administrator, NRC Region I
NRC Resident Inspector's Office Indian Point
Mr. Paul Eddy, New York State Department of Public Service
Mr. Francis J. Murray Jr., President and CEO NYSERDA

ATTACHMENT 1 TO NL-10-050

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REGARDING RELIEF REQUEST IP3-ISI-RR-04

ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.
INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NO. 3
DOCKET NO. 50-286

Response to Request For Additional Information
Regarding Relief Request IP3-ISI-RR-04

By letter dated December 23, 2009, Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML100050207, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. submitted a request to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for relief from the requirements of the paragraph 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(D)(3) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations by proposing to implement an alternative examination area for reactor vessel penetration nozzles, Code Case N-729-1, at Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 3 (IP3).

The NRC staff, in reviewing the submittal, requested additional information to complete its review. The two NRC questions and the Entergy response are found below.

Question 1

The NRC staff notes that relief from the requirements of the code case is to be considered only when obstructions or limitations prevent meeting the requirements of Figure 2 of Code Case N-729-1. The NRC staff also notes that the relief request does not identify the penetrations for which the requirements of Figure 2 cannot be met. Please provide a list of those penetrations for which the requirements of Figure 2 cannot be met and for which relief is requested.

Response

Based on Reactor Vessel head penetration nozzle examinations in 3R14 and 3R15, penetrations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, and 37 do not meet the 1.5" acceptance criterion specified in Code Case N-729-1 for an incident angle of less than or equal to 30 degrees and penetrations 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 47, 48, 52, 55, 56, 61, 62, 65, 67, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, and 78 do not meet the 1.0" acceptance criterion specified in Code Case N-729-1 for an incident angle of greater than 30 degrees. Relief is requested for these penetrations. During the 3R14 and 3R15 examinations coverage for penetrations 40, 49, 50, 53, 54, 57, 58, 60, 64, 66 were measured at the acceptance criterion (that is within 0.08"). Relief is also preemptively requested for these penetrations to avoid an exigent relief request.

Question 2

The NRC staff notes that Table 1 of the relief request lists the minimum required ultrasonic testing (UT) coverage below the J-groove weld. The NRC staff also notes that the request states that UT coverage will extend down to "at least the top of the threaded region". The NRC staff further notes that the request does not state that, for each penetration, the UT coverage which will be performed meets or exceeds the coverage requirement listed in Table 1. For each nozzle for which relief is requested, please confirm that UT coverage to "at least the top of the threaded region" meets or exceeds the requirements listed in Table 1.

Response

Entergy has confirmed that UT coverage to "at least the top of the threaded region" meets or exceeds the requirements listed in Table 1 of IP3-ISI-RR-04 for each nozzle for which relief is requested.