

2nd REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
ON RELIEF REQUEST
FOR 1ST PERIOD LIMITED WELD EXAMINATIONS
AT DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER
(TAC NO. ME1821)

In a letter dated July 30, 2009, NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC submitted a relief request for an alternative to the required 1st period limited weld examinations for the 4th ten-year interval of various welds at the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC). On January 26, 2010, the NRC asked two RAIs to which DAEC responded on Feb. 25, 2010. The Vessels and Internals Integrity Branch is in the process of writing the Safety Evaluation, and a peer-review process has identified additional RAIs as addressed below.

follow up on RAI 2 from January 26, 2010 request

For CUA-J024 weld in the Reactor Water Cleanup System, this is a weld between a forged penetration and a cast valve, 50% coverage was probably the best coverage to be expected by the inspection. You have said in the July 30, 2009 submittal that 50% coverage is OK because the weld is not susceptible to IGSCC. But the only reason that weld is in RI Category 2 is because it is susceptible to IGSCC, otherwise, it is Category 4. Please clarify this apparent discrepancy.

RAI 3

There is an inconsistency in the documentation provided. Page 1 of 1 on report no. UT-07-029 "UT Calibration/Examination" shows the exam angle of the Search Unit as "60°", and the mode is listed as "shear". But Page 2 of 2 on UT-07-028 "Supplemental Report" shows a sketch of the inspection configuration and it includes a notation that the transducer was at "60° RL, not 60°, shear mode. Please clarify.

RAI 4

Please clearly identify the wave modality, insonification angles, and scan directions used for all ultrasonic examinations.

RAI 5

Did the inspection exam category R-A meet ASME Code, Section XI, App VIII qualification requirements?

RAI 6

Supply a description of the materials of construction for the B1.40 RV head to flange weld and the R1.16 RMA-J004 weld.

RAI 7

Provide a better copy of the photo in submittal for CUA-J024 weld.

ENCLOSURE

RAI 8

State whether there were any recordable indications detected in the required inspections and if so, how these indications were dispositioned.

RAI 9

The original July 30, 2009 submittal includes the following statement:

“The Nondestructive Examination (NDE) procedure used for this examination incorporates the examination techniques qualified under Appendix VIII of the ASME Section XI Code by the Performance Demonstration Initiative (PDI). That procedure was approved under Relief Request NDE-ROO8 on January 31, 2007.”

The January 31, 2007 document provides authorization to use an alternative to Code requirements, not NRC approval of a procedure. Rephrase this paragraph to reflect the fact that the NRC authorized the use of the alternative for the remainder of the 4th ISI interval at DAEC.

ENCLOSURE