



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

September 2, 2011

Mr. Edward D. Halpin
President & CEO
STP Nuclear Operating Company
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

SUBJECT: SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT UNIT 2 – NOTIFICATION OF INSPECTION (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000499/2011004) AND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Dear Mr. Halpin:

From October 31, 2011, to November 10, 2011, reactor inspectors from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Region IV office will perform the baseline inservice inspection at South Texas Project Unit 2, using NRC Inspection Procedure 71111.08, "Inservice Inspection Activities." Experience has shown that this inspection is a resource intensive inspection both for the NRC inspectors and your staff. In order to minimize the impact to your onsite resources and to ensure a productive inspection, we have enclosed a request for documents needed for this inspection. These documents have been divided into two groups. The first group (Section A of the enclosure), due by September 21, 2011, identifies information to be provided prior to the inspection to ensure that the inspectors are adequately prepared. The second group (Section B of the enclosure) identifies the information the inspectors will need upon arrival at the site. It is important that all of these documents are up to date and complete in order to minimize the number of additional documents requested during the preparation and/or the onsite portions of the inspection.

We have discussed the schedule for these inspection activities with your staff and understand that our regulatory contact for this inspection will be Mr. Phillip Walker of your licensing organization. Our inspection dates are subject to change based on your updated schedule of outage activities. If there are any questions about this inspection or the material requested, please contact the lead inspector Jim Drake at (817) 276-6558 (James.Drake@nrc.gov).

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Gregory E. Werner, Chief
Plant Support Branch 2
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-499
License: NPF-80

Enclosure:
Inservice Inspection Document Request

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Inspection Reports/MidCycle and EOC Letters to the following:
ROPreports

Only inspection reports to the following:
RIV/ETA: OEDO (John.McHale@nrc.gov)
DRS/TSB STA (Dale.Powers@nrc.gov)

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INSERVICE INSPECTION DOCUMENT REQUEST

Inspection Dates: October 31, 2011, through November 10, 2011 (onsite dates)

Inspection Procedures: IP 71111.08, "Inservice Inspection (ISI) Activities"
TI 2515/172, "Reactor Coolant System Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds"

Inspectors: James Drake, Senior Reactor Inspector (Lead Inspector - ISI)
Binesh Tharakan, Resident Inspector

A. Information Requested for the In-Office Preparation Week

The following information should be sent to the Region IV office in hard copy or electronic format (ims.certrec.com preferred), in care of James Drake, by September 21, 2011, to facilitate the selection of specific items that will be reviewed during the onsite inspection week. The inspectors will select specific items from the information requested below and then request from your staff additional documents needed during the onsite inspection week (Section B of this enclosure). We ask that the specific items selected from the lists be available and ready for review on the first day of inspection. Please provide requested documentation electronically if possible. If requested documents are large and only hard copy formats are available, please inform the inspector(s), and provide subject documentation during the first day of the onsite inspection. If you have any questions regarding this information request, please call the inspector as soon as possible.

A.1 ISI/Welding Programs and Schedule Information

- a) A detailed schedule (including preliminary dates) of:
- i) Nondestructive examinations planned for Class 1 & 2 systems and containment, performed as part of your ASME Section XI, risk informed (if applicable), and augmented inservice inspection programs during the upcoming outage.

Provide a status summary of the nondestructive examination inspection activities vs. the required inspection period percentages for this interval by category per ASME Section XI, IWX-2400. Do not provide separately if other documentation requested contains this information.
 - ii) Examinations planned for Alloy 82/182/600 components that are not included in the Section XI scope (If applicable).
 - iii) Examinations planned as part of your boric acid corrosion control program (Mode 3 walkdowns, bolted connection walkdowns, etc.).

- iv) Welding activities that are scheduled to be completed during the upcoming outage (ASME Class 1, 2, or 3 structures, systems, or components).
- b) A copy of ASME Section XI Code Relief Requests and associated NRC safety evaluations applicable to the examinations identified above.
- c) A list of nondestructive examination reports (ultrasonic, radiography, magnetic particle, dye penetrant, Visual VT-1, VT-2, and VT-3), which have identified relevant conditions on Code Class 1 & 2 systems since the beginning of the last refueling outage. This should include the previous Section XI pressure test(s) conducted during start up and any evaluations associated with the results of the pressure tests. Also, include in the list the nondestructive examination reports with relevant conditions in the reactor pressure vessel head penetration nozzles that have been accepted for continued service. The list of nondestructive examination reports should include a brief description of the structures, systems, or components where the relevant condition was identified.
- d) A list with a brief description (e.g., system, material, pipe size, weld number, and nondestructive examinations performed) of the welds in Code Class 1 and 2 systems which have been fabricated due to component repair/replacement activities since the beginning of the last refueling outage, or are planned to be fabricated this refueling outage.
- e) If reactor vessel weld examinations required by the ASME Code are scheduled to occur during the upcoming outage, provide a detailed description of the welds to be examined and the extent of the planned examination. Please also provide reference numbers for applicable procedures that will be used to conduct these examinations.
- f) Copy of any 10 CFR Part 21 reports applicable to your structures, systems, or components within the scope of Section XI of the ASME Code that have been identified since the beginning of the last refueling outage.
- g) A list of any temporary noncode repairs in service (e.g., pinhole leaks).
- h) Please provide copies of the most recent self-assessments for the inservice inspection, welding, and Alloy 600 programs.

A.2 Reactor Pressure Vessel Head

- a) Per telephone calls with your staff, the NRC understands that there are no scheduled inspections of the reactor vessel head for this outage.

A.3 Boric Acid Corrosion Control Program

- a) Copy of the procedures that govern the scope, equipment and implementation of the inspections required to identify boric acid leakage and the procedures for boric acid leakage/corrosion evaluation.
- b) Please provide a list of leaks (including Code class of the components) that have been identified since the last refueling outage and associated corrective action documentation. If during the last cycle, the unit was shutdown, please provide documentation of containment walkdown inspections performed as part of the boric acid corrosion control program.
- c) Please provide a copy of the most recent self-assessment performed for the boric acid corrosion control program.

A.4 Steam Generator Tube Inspections

- a) Per telephone calls with your staff, the NRC understands that there are no scheduled inspections of the steam generators for this outage.
- b) Please provide a copy of your steam generator inservice inspection program and plan. Please include a copy of the operational assessment from last outage and a copy of the following documents as they become available:
 - i) Degradation assessment
 - ii) Condition monitoring assessment
- c) If you are planning on modifying your Technical Specifications such that they are consistent with Technical Specification Task Force Traveler TSTF-449, "Steam Generator Tube Integrity," please provide copies of your correspondence with the NRC regarding deviations from the standard technical specifications.
- d) Copy of steam generator history documentation.
- e) Identify and quantify any steam generator tube leakage experienced during the previous operating cycle. Also provide documentation identifying which steam generator was leaking and corrective actions completed or planned for this condition (if applicable).
- f) Provide past history of the condition and issues pertaining to the secondary side of the steam generators (including items such as loose parts, fouling, top of tube sheet condition, crud removal amounts, etc.)
- g) Provide copies of your most recent self-assessments of the steam generator monitoring, loose parts monitoring, and secondary side water chemistry control programs.

A.5 Additional Information Related to All Inservice Inspection Activities

- a) A list with a brief description of inservice inspection, boric acid corrosion control program, and steam generator tube inspection related issues (e.g., condition reports) entered into your corrective action program since the beginning of the last refueling outage for Unit 2. For example, a list based upon data base searches using key words related to piping or steam generator tube degradation such as: inservice inspection, ASME Code, Section XI, NDE, cracks, wear, thinning, leakage, rust, corrosion, boric acid, or errors in piping/steam generator tube examinations.
- b) Please provide names and phone numbers for the following program leads:
 - Inservice inspection (examination, planning)
 - Containment exams
 - Reactor pressure vessel head exams
 - Snubbers and supports
 - Repair and replacement program
 - Licensing
 - Site welding engineer
 - Boric acid corrosion control program

B. Information to be Provided Onsite to the Inspector(s) at the Entrance Meeting (October 31, 2011):

B.1 Inservice Inspection / Welding Programs and Schedule Information

- a) Updated schedules for inservice inspection/nondestructive examination activities, including planned welding activities and schedule showing contingency repair plans, if available.
- b) For ASME Code Class 1 and 2 welds selected by the inspector from the lists provided from section A of this enclosure, please provide copies of the following documentation for each subject weld:
 - i) Weld data sheet (traveler)
 - ii) Weld configuration and system location
 - iii) Applicable Code Edition and Addenda for weldment
 - iv) Applicable Code Edition and Addenda for welding procedures
 - v) Applicable weld procedures used to fabricate the welds
 - vi) Copies of procedure qualification records supporting the weld procedures from B.1.b.v

- vii) Copies of mechanical test reports identified in the procedure qualification records above
 - viii) Copies of the nonconformance reports for the selected welds (if applicable)
 - ix) Radiographs of the selected welds and access to equipment to allow viewing radiographs (if radiographic testing was performed)
 - x) Copies of the preservice examination records for the selected welds
 - xi) Copies of welder performance qualifications records applicable to the selected welds, including documentation that welder maintained proficiency in the applicable welding processes specified in the weld procedures (at least 6 months prior to the date of subject work)
 - xii) Copies of nondestructive examination personnel qualifications (visual inspection, penetrant testing, ultrasonic testing, radiographic testing), as applicable
- c) For the inservice inspection related corrective action issues selected by the inspectors from Section A of this enclosure, provide a copy of the corrective actions and supporting documentation.
 - d) For the nondestructive examination reports with relevant conditions on Code Class 1 and 2 systems selected by the inspectors from Section A above, provide a copy of the examination records, examiner qualification records, and associated corrective action documents.
 - e) A copy of (or ready access to) most current revision of the inservice inspection program manual and plan for the current Interval.
 - f) For the nondestructive examinations selected by the inspectors from section A of this enclosure, provide a copy of the nondestructive examination procedures used to perform the examinations (including calibration and flaw characterization/sizing procedures). For ultrasonic examination procedures qualified in accordance with ASME Section XI, Appendix VIII, provide documentation supporting the procedure qualification (e.g., the EPRI performance demonstration qualification summary sheets). Also, include qualification documentation of the specific equipment to be used (e.g., ultrasonic unit, cables, and transducers including serial numbers) and nondestructive examination personnel qualification records.

B.2 Reactor Pressure Vessel Head

- a) Copy of nondestructive examination reports from the last reactor pressure vessel head examination.

- b) Provide a copy of the updated calculation of effective degradation years for the reactor pressure vessel head susceptibility ranking.

B.3 Boric Acid Corrosion Control Program

- a) Please provide boric acid walkdown inspection results, an updated list of boric acid leaks identified so far this outage, associated corrective action documentation, and overall status of planned boric acid inspections.
- b) Please provide any engineering evaluations completed for boric acid leaks identified since the end of the last refueling outage. Please include a status of corrective actions to repair and/or clean these boric acid leaks. Please identify specifically which known leaks, if any, have remained in service or will remain in service as active leaks.

B.4 Steam Generator Tube Inspections

- a) No additional information required.

B.5 Codes and Standards

- a) Ready access to (i.e., copies provided to the inspector(s) for use during the inspection at the onsite inspection location, or room number and location where available):
 - i) Applicable Editions of the ASME Code (Sections V, IX, and XI) for the inservice inspection program and the repair/replacement program
 - ii) EPRI and industry standards referenced in the procedures used to perform the steam generator tube eddy current examination

Inspector Contact Information:

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