

March 15, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Anthony J. Mendiola, Chief
Licensing Processes Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Joseph A. Golla, Project Manager /RA/
Licensing Processes Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 25, 2013, TELECOM WITH THE
ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND WESTINGHOUSE
ELECTRIC COMPANY

On February 25, 2013, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a teleconference with representatives of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and Westinghouse Electric Company (Westinghouse). The purpose of the teleconference was to discuss followup items from a meeting held on January 22-23, 2013 (meeting summary at Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML13042A048) concerning the Material Reliability Program (MRP)-227-A, "Pressurized Water Reactor Internals Inspection and Evaluation Guidelines," Topical Report guidelines. Enclosed is a list of those in attendance. The following was discussed:

1. "Technical Basis Document/letter report" will come directly from Westinghouse to the NRC. This is a letter report or Westinghouse technical report that will provide the basis for broad applicability of the MRP-227-A guidelines using the proprietary design information (regarding variances in stress, fluence, and temperature) presented at the meeting on January 22-23, 2013. The purpose of this document is to provide justification that licensees need to only answer revised Questions 1 and 2 from the meeting summary (shown below) to verify plant-specific applicability, in addition to answering the three questions from MRP-227-A, Section 2.4.

This document will provide the information from the slides presented at the January 22-23, 2013, meeting in the form of a technical report or letter report that can be referenced by the NRC staff in its safety evaluations of plant-specific reactor vessel internals inspection plans to support resolution of Applicant/Licensee Action Item 1 from MRP-227-A.

The time frame for the above submission is approximately mid-May 2013, or sometime after the April Reactor Internals Planning Group Meeting (industry meeting).

2. The guidance document to licensees providing guidance on how to answer the three questions documented in the January 22-23, 2013, meeting summary (revised/condensed into two questions below in this telecom summary) will be generated in about the same time frame as the letter report to the NRC staff (mid-May). EPRI/Westinghouse will share this with the NRC staff subject to approval from the licensees.

3. No issues have arisen since the January 22-23, 2013, meeting related to further investigations being conducted by EPRI/Westinghouse; however, the further investigations are not complete.

4. There was discussion initiated by the NRC staff (Mr. Jeff Poehler of the Vessels & Internals Integrity Branch (EVIB) of MRP-227-A, Action Item 7 (cast austenitic stainless steel (CASS))). The NRC staff took an action to work with the industry to schedule a public meeting on this topic in the near future and share on-going research on the issue. The industry would provide an overview of the evaluation template from Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) Owner's Group project PA-MS-0983 for CASS evaluations and a summary of MRP-276 "Thermal Aging and Neutron Embrittlement Assessment of Cast Austenitic Stainless Steels and Stainless Steel Welds in PWR Internals." An initial target date of late April 2013 was proposed. The upcoming technical meeting between the NRC staff and industry representatives scheduled for June 4-6, 2013, was discussed as a potential alternate window to have this discussion, but based on the need to resolve this action item in several licensee plant-specific reviews, the NRC staff expressed a desire to schedule this meeting sooner, if possible.

5. There was discussion concerning extended power uprate (EPU) guidance from the January 22-23, 2013, meeting summary, last paragraph:

"An additional item that was discussed at the conclusion of the meeting was that the generic guidance for EPU should include a recommendation to review the impact of the EPU on the plant-specific applicability of MRP-227-A. This is an item for the NRC staff to consider when revising its guidance for EPU, and does not need to be addressed in the RAIs issued, related to individual plant inspection plans."

To elaborate, the NRC staff should revise the guidance for EPUs to recommend consideration of the effect of EPUs on Reactor Vessel Internals and whether changes would be needed to the MRP-227-A recommendations as a result of an EPU. This will not be addressed in the Technical Basis Document discussed above.

6. The wording of Questions 2 and 3 from the January 22-23, 2013, meeting summary was discussed. It was pointed out by Dr. Randy Lott of Westinghouse that Question 3 was a subset of Question 2. Therefore, retaining Question 1, Question 2 is hereby rewritten as follows, and Question 3 eliminated:

1. Does the plant have non-weld or bolting austenitic stainless steel components with 20 percent cold work or greater, and if so, do the affected components have operating stresses greater than 30 ksi? (If both conditions are true, additional components may need to be screened in for stress corrosion cracking).
2. (New Question 2):

Does the plant have atypical fuel design or fuel management that could render the assumptions of MRP-227-A, regarding core loading/core design, non-representative for that plant? (This question covers power uprates as well as other core design and fuel management aspects. The NRC staff understands that some power uprates are

A. Mendiola

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reflected in the basis for MRP-227-A. Westinghouse is to define what type and magnitude of power uprates would constitute "atypical fuel design or fuel management").

These questions need to be addressed by licensees to allow the NRC staff to evaluate plant-specific applicability of MRP-227-A.

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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OFFICE	PLPB/PM	PLPB/LA	EVIB/BC	PLPB/BC	PLPB/PM
NAME	JGolla	DBaxley	SRosenberg	AMendiola	JGolla
DATE	03/15/2013	03/12/2013	03/13/2013	03/14/2013	03/15/2013

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List of Attendees

Teleconference with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and
Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and Westinghouse Electric Company (Westinghouse)

Held on February 25, 2013

NAME	AFFILIATION/AGENCY
Cheryl Boggess	Westinghouse
Randy Lott	Westinghouse
Stan Anderson	Westinghouse
Frank Marx	Westinghouse
Karli Szweda	Westinghouse
Joshua McKinley	Westinghouse
Rick Gradomski	Westinghouse
Patricia Paesano	Westinghouse
Jun Bae	Westinghouse
Kyle Amberge	EPRI
Robin Dyle	EPRI
Robert Hardies	NRC
Rob Tregoning	NRC
Allen Hiser	NRC
Ganesh Cheruvenki	NRC
Jeffrey Poehler	NRC
Joseph Golla	NRC
Patrick Purtscher	NRC

ENCLOSURE