

April 19, 2013

Dennis Madison  
Southern Nuclear  
Chairman, BWR Vessel and Internals Project  
3420 Hillview Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1395

SUBJECT: FINAL SAFETY EVALUATIONS OF THE BOILING WATER  
REACTOR VESSEL INTERNALS PROJECT (BWRVIP)-241 REPORT,  
"PROBABILISTIC FRACTURE MECHANICS EVALUATION FOR THE  
BOILING WATER REACTOR NOZZLE-TO-VESSEL SHELL WELDS AND  
NOZZLE BLEND RADII" (TAC NO. ME6328)

Dear Mr. Madison:

By letter dated April 26, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML11119A041) and supplemented by letter dated October 10, 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12290A017), the BWRVIP submitted the topical report (TR) BWRVIP-241, BWR Vessel and Internals Project Probabilistic Fracture Mechanics [(PFM)] Evaluation for the Nozzle-to-Vessel Shell Welds and Nozzle Blend Radii," for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review and approval. By letter dated January 10, 2013, a NRC draft safety evaluation (SE) regarding our approval of BWRVIP-241 was provided for your review and comment.

By email dated February 14, 2013, the BWRVIP commented on the draft SE. The only comments provided by the BWRVIP identified proprietary information that was contained in the draft SE. In a subsequent conference call with the NRC staff and Larry Stienert representing the BWRVIP, revisions to the SE were agreed upon that would remove the proprietary information from the SE.

Based on its review of the information submitted by the BWRVIP, the NRC staff finds the TR acceptable for referencing subject to the limitations specified in the TRs and in the NRC SEs. The final SEs define the basis for our acceptance of the TR.

Our acceptance applies only to material provided in the subject TRs. We do not intend to repeat our review of the acceptable material described in the TRs. When the TRs appear as references in license applications, our review will ensure that the material presented applies to the specific plant involved. License amendment requests that deviate from these TRs will be subject to a plant-specific review in accordance with applicable review standards.

In accordance with the guidance provided on the NRC website, we request that the BWRVIP publish accepted versions of each TR within three months of receipt of this letter. The accepted version shall incorporate this letter and the enclosed final SE after the title page. Also, the accepted version must contain historical review information, including NRC requests for

additional information (RAI) and your responses after the title page. The accepted version shall include an "-A" (designating accepted) following the TR identification symbol.

As an alternative to including the RAIs and RAI responses behind the title page, if changes to the TRs provided to the NRC staff to support the resolution of RAI responses, and the NRC staff reviewed and approved those changes as described in the RAI responses, there are two ways that the accepted version can capture the RAIs:

1. The RAIs and RAI responses can be included as an Appendix to the accepted version.
2. The RAIs and RAI responses can be captured in the form of a table (inserted after the final SE) which summarizes the changes as shown in the approved version of the TR. The table should reference the specific RAIs and RAI responses which resulted in any changes, as shown in the accepted version of the TR.

If future changes to the NRC's regulatory requirements affect the acceptability of the TR, the BWRVIP and/or licensees referencing it will be expected to revise the TR appropriately, or justify its continued applicability for subsequent referencing.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Mr. Joseph J. Holonich at 301-415-7297.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Sher Bahadur, Deputy Director  
Division of Policy and Rulemaking  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 704

Enclosure:  
BWRVIP-241 Final SE

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Sher Bahadur, Deputy Director  
 Division of Policy and Rulemaking  
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 BWRVIP-241 Final SE

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**ADAMS Accession Nos.: ML13071A233 (Letter); ML13071A240 (Safety Evaluation); ML13071A245 (Package)**

**NRR-043**

<b>OFFICE</b>	PLPB/PM	PLPB/LA	DE/EVIB/BC	PLPB/BC	DPR/DD
<b>NAME</b>	JHolonich	DBaxley	SRosenberg	AMendiola	SBahadur
<b>DATE</b>	04/03/2013	03/26/2013	04/05/2013	04/11/2013	04/19/2013

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