

March 26, 2014

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

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION APPROVAL LETTER FOR  
"BWRVIP [BOILING WATER REACTOR (BWR) VESSEL INTEGRITY  
PROGRAM]-86, REVISION 1-A: UPDATED BWR INTEGRATED  
SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM [(ISP)] IMPLEMENTATION PLAN"  
(TAC NO. MF2154)

Dear Mr. Madison:

By letter dated June 7, 2013, the BWRVIP submitted a proprietary version of the report BWRVIP-86, Revision 1-A, "Updated BWR Integrated Surveillance Program Implementation Plan," for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML13176A096).

A nonproprietary copy of this document (ADAMS Accession No. ML13176A097) has been placed in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Public Document Room and added to the NRC Library in ADAMS.

The BWRVIP-86, Revision 1-A, report provides a comprehensive Integrated Surveillance Program (ISP) Implementation Plan for both the original and the renewed license periods, up to 60 years of plant operation. The results documented in this report will be utilized by the BWRVIP ISP and by individual utilities to demonstrate compliance with Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 50, Appendix H, Reactor Vessel Material Surveillance Program Requirements.

The report compiles information associated with the NRC staff's review of BWRVIP-86, Revision 1-A; namely, it incorporates the NRC safety evaluation and replaces Appendices B, C, and D with a new Appendix B that contains the NRC Request for Additional Information (RAI) on BWRVIP-86, Revision 1, and new Appendix C that contains the RAI response. The former Appendices E and F were changed to D and E. Details of the revision can be found in Table F-1 of Appendix F.

We want to clarify one portion of the NRC safety evaluation, which we think does currently have a common interpretation between NRC and the industry. Specifically, for the second full paragraph on page 6, that starts with "The third large group," the sixth and seventh sentences of this paragraph should be interpreted in this way:

"The chemistry values contained in Appendix A, "Individual Vessel Evaluations," and Appendix C, "BWRVIP Response to NRC Request for Additional Information on BWRVIP-86, Revision 1," are acceptable for identifying representative materials in the

ISP. The values in Appendix A are not approved as plant-specific best estimate chemistry values for use in plant-specific reactor pressure vessel (RPV) integrity evaluations. Plant-specific best estimate chemistries will be reviewed as part of all submittals involving a plant-specific RPV integrity evaluation such as pressure - temperature limit determinations. Such plant-specific best estimate chemistry values should be based on the best current information available.”

The reference to 10CFR50.61 in this section of the safety evaluation is not relevant to boiling water reactors.

Based on its review of the changes documented in BWRVIP-86, Revision 1-A, and summarized in Table F-1, the NRC staff has determined that the BWRVIP-86, Revision 1-A, report is acceptable to the extent delineated in the NRC staff's original approval letter dated October 20, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML112780497). The revisions to the topical report, submitted in the approved copy, do not affect the NRC's approval status of this topical report.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact the Project Manager, 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

ISP. The values in Appendix A are not approved as plant-specific best estimate chemistry values for use in plant-specific reactor pressure vessel (RPV) integrity evaluations. Plant-specific best estimate chemistries will be reviewed as part of all submittals involving a plant-specific RPV integrity evaluation such as pressure - temperature limit determinations. Such plant-specific best estimate chemistry values should be based on the best current information available."

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

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

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML13168A073**

**NRR-106**

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DATE	06/17/2013	08/27/2013	03/19/2014	03/25/2014	03/26/2014

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