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Lupold, Timothy

**From:** Gray, Harold  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:02 AM  
**To:** Lupold, Timothy  
**Cc:** Burns, Thomas  
**Subject:** FW: Newspaper opinion article RE reactor vessel cracks

Tim,

FYI,

Harold Gray,

10-337-5325

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Hardies, Robert  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 8:34 AM  
**To:** Gray, Harold  
**Cc:** Screnci, Diane; Sheehan, Neil; Trapp, James; Burns, Thomas; Wilson, Peter; Miller, Chris  
**Subject:** RE: Newspaper opinion article RE reactor vessel cracks

Thanks for this Harold. We are going to have a public meeting after we all get back from another round of meetings with the Belgian regulator during the week of October 15. The public meeting is not set up yet, so I don't have a date.

Vermont Yankee doesn't have any Rotterdam forgings, and no forgings at all for the shell courses. They were all welded plate construction. The flanges are forgings, but the flanges have bolt holes and sealing surfaces and weld preps that were examined with surface techniques that would have picked up large numbers (or even small numbers) of linear indications. So it is safe to say that the indications found at Doel 3 cannot exist at Vermont Yankee.

An information notice will come out after that. We have been hampered by the Belgian government not authorizing us to release information to our public.

Robert Hardies  
Senior Level Advisor for Materials Engineering Division of Engineering Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Office Phone 301 415-5802

Cell (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gray, Harold  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:49 AM  
**To:** Hardies, Robert  
**Cc:** Screnci, Diane; Sheehan, Neil; Trapp, James; Burns, Thomas; Wilson, Peter; Miller, Chris  
**Subject:** FW: Newspaper opinion article RE reactor vessel cracks

Bob,

In case you do not already have it, the attached.

C/98

Is NRC going to issue a summary on the significance to US plants of these UT indications, which have been characterized as hydrogen flaking, small indications in the plane of the shell surface, similar to laminations?

As I read the related info, it looks like the vacuum degassing or post forming heat treatment of the shell ring forging by the steel producer were factors in the indication development.

Harold Gray

-----Original Message-----

From: Rutenkroger, Scott (S)  
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:25 AM  
To: Gray, Harold; Burns, Thomas  
Subject: FW: Newspaper opinion article RE reactor vessel cracks

Either of you know anything? Or, are the current ISI and NDE inspections such that we already know it isn't possible?

Thanks,  
Scott

-----Original Message-----

From: Rutenkroger, Scott  
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:20 AM  
To: Bellamy, Ronald; Setzer, Thomas; Keighley, Elizabeth; DeBoer, Joseph; Guzman, Richard  
Subject: Newspaper opinion article RE reactor vessel cracks

I read this article in a local newspaper last night. I'm evaluating it for potential to be an allegation. I would think this would be an issue for which the validity is known, making it NOT an allegation. However, I don't recall any such discussion or information. Anyone know anything?

Thanks,  
Scott