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**Docket:** NRC-2014-0023

Effect of LWR Coolant Environments on the Fatigue Life of Reactor Materials

**Comment On:** NRC-2014-0023-0001

Draft Guidance for Industry and Staff: Effect of LWR Coolant Environments on the Fatigue Life of Reactor Materials

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Comment on FR Doc # 2014-08792

**Submitter Information****Name:** Seiji Asada**Address:**

1-1-1, Wadasaki-cho, Hyogo-ku

Kobe, Japan, 652-8585

**Email:** seiji\_asada@mhi.co.jp

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RULES AND DIRECTIVES  
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LEADING**General Comment**1) Section 3.1.10: Extension of the Best-Fit Mean Curve from  $10^6$  to  $10^{11}$  CyclesExtension of the best-fit mean curve from  $10^6$  to  $10^{11}$  cycles is too conservative.EN 13445 uses the cut-off limit at  $10^8$  cycles and the following equation based on the Haibach Model is applied to variable amplitude loading. $\Delta SR = (C3/N)^{0.1}$  for  $N \geq 2 \times 10^6$  cyclesAlso, Giga-Cycle-Fatigue Subcommittee of the Atomic Energy Research Committee of the Japan Welding Engineering Society studied on fatigue in giga-cycle regime. Fatigue tests of 316NG and SFVQ1A (equivalent to SA 508 Gr.3 Cl.1) up to  $10^9$  cycles were performed and confirmed that internal fracture did not cause a sudden drop in fatigue strength [\*1, 2].Fatigue tests above  $10^8$  cycles are very difficult and the extension over  $10^8$  cycles is not realistic.

Therefore, the provision of EN13445 is a reasonable methodology.

\*1: Ogawa, T., et al., "Investigation of Effect of Pre-Strain on Very High-Cycle Fatigue Strength of Austenitic Stainless Steels," Journal of Power and Energy Systems, Vol.3, No.1, 2009.

\*2: Sato, M., et al., "Giga-Cycle Fatigue Strength Properties of Low-Alloy Steel SFVQ1A Evaluated by Ultrasonic Fatigue Test," Transactions of the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers, Series A, Vol.78, No.789, 2012. (in Japanese)

2) Section 3.1.6: Fatigue Life Model

**SUNSI Review Complete****Template = ADM - 013****E-RIDS = ADM-03**Add- *M. L. J. Stevens (gls #)*

The dependency of tensile strength on fatigue curve is well-known. The fatigue design curves of EN13445 are specified for tensile strength class. Design-Fatigue-Curve Subcommittee of the Atomic Energy Research Committee of the Japan Welding Engineering Society is developing design fatigue curves and has confirmed the dependency of tensile strength on fatigue curves [\*3].

And so, the dependency of tensile strength on fatigue curve should be incorporated into the design fatigue curves so as to perform reasonable design.

\*3: Kanasaki, H., et al., "Proposal of Fatigue Life Equations for Carbon & Low-Alloy Steels and Austenitic Stainless Steels as a Function of Tensile Strength," PVP2013-97770, ASME, 2013.

#### 3) 4.2.2: Strain Rate (Austenitic Stainless Steels)

The upper strain rate is determined 10%/s by extrapolating from the data less than 1.0%/s in Figure 85 and 86. However, Fukuta, et al. [\*4] showed the data above 0.4%/s in PWR environment and concluded that the threshold strain rate at  $F_{en} = 1$  was estimated to be lower than 3%/sec for all austenitic stainless steels. Therefore the upper strain rate of 10%/s should be reexamined.

\*4: Fukuta, Y., et al. "High Strain Rate Effects on Environment Assisted Fatigue for Austenitic Stainless Steels in PWR Environment," PVP2013-97158, ASME, 2013.

#### 4) 3.1.7: Heat-to-Heat Variability

95% criterion is applied. The validity of 95% criterion on fatigue data should be described.

#### 5) Errata

- The upper side of pp.100: "(c)" should be deleted.
- Figure 88: "0.3%, DO" should be corrected.