

NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

From: Rankin, Jennivine
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 9:08 PM
To: ERICKSON, JEFFREY S (JERICKS@entergy.com)
Subject: Acceptance Review - Relief Request Number RR 4-20 - Proposed Alternative, Use of Alternate ASME Code Case N-716 (MF4635)

Mr. Erickson,

By letter dated August 14, 2014 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML14226A618), Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (the licensee), submitted a request for relief (proposed alternative) to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Section XI inservice inspection (ISI) program for Class 1 and 2 piping at Palisades Nuclear Plant (PNP). In particular, the submittal requests the use of a risk-informed/safety based ISI process, which is based upon ASME Code Case N-716, "Alternate Piping Classification and Examination Requirements."

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in the scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) and 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your request and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the requested relief in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1530.

Thanks,
Jennie

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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