

May 20, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: Anthony J. Mendiola, Chief  
Licensing Processes Branch  
Division of Policy and Rulemaking  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Joseph J. Holonich, Senior Project Manager /RA/  
Licensing Processes Branch  
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 24, 2015, MEETING WITH  
AREVA NP, INC. ON PEENING ACTIVITIES

On March 24, 2015, staff from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) met with representatives from AREVA NP, Inc. (AREVA). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss AREVA peening activities as they relate to Material Reliability Program (MRP)-335, Revision 1, "Topical Report for Primary Water Stress Corrosion Cracking Mitigation by Surface Stress Improvement." Publically available meeting information can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) package for the meeting at ADAMS Accession No. 15050A053.

In its introductory remarks, the NRC staff provided background on how the peening activities of AREVA related to the ongoing review of MRP-335. The NRC staff explained that MRP-335 provided an input in the form of certain variables for peening and advocates that if those variables were met, a relief request to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) pressure and vessel code inspection frequencies could be obtained.

The NRC staff continued that this meeting was outside of the scope of the MRP-335 review. It noted that the discussions at this meeting helped the NRC staff understand what licensees could do to peen. If a licensee filed a relief request, then the peening methods discussed at this meeting could be one approach used. The NRC staff concluded that the meeting should address:

- 1) Where would peening be done?
- 2) How deep would peening go?
- 3) What are the compressive stresses?
- 4) How licensees verify the peening variables have been met?

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The AREVA representatives stated that a meeting like this is essential because there is a large capital investment in activities like peening. Thus, it was important to know if ongoing activities were aligned with what the NRC would expect to make its regulatory conclusions. In addition, AREVA representatives emphasized that NRC staff needs to be available to look at the technologies once they are ready for review. By having NRC staff engagement early, AREVA stated that there was greater certainty when the technology was brought to market.

Questions from the NRC staff and answers by AREVA representatives were informative in nature. No regulatory positions were taken or commitments made as a result of the presentation and questions.

There were no action items from the meeting.

Project No.: 728

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