

February 25, 2016

Ms. Shannon Chu
Electric Power Research Institute
3420 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S STAFFS COMMENTS ON THE
SUSCEPTIBILITY ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR CHLORIDE-INDUCED STRESS
CORROSION CRACKING OF WELDED STAINLESS STEEL CANISTERS FOR
DRY CASK STORAGE SYSTEMS

Dear Ms. Chu:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) staff has reviewed the subject report. The issuance of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Susceptibility Assessment Criteria report, NRC comments to the report, and the actions by industry to address the NRC comments are identified as the last steps that must be completed prior to the closure of the Regulatory Issue Resolution Protocol Screening Form and Resolution Plan for Chloride-Induced Stress Corrosion Cracking (CISCC) (RIRP-N-10-01).

The NRC staff comments and questions are included in the Enclosure. While there are a fair number of comments and questions, the NRC staff recognize that the report is an important milestone and the result of a significant effort on the part of EPRI staff and the EPRI contractors. The NRC staff also recognize the value of the developed susceptibility assessment criteria on aging management of welded stainless steel canisters utilized in the majority of dry storage systems currently in use in the U.S.

The NRC appreciates the significant progress that EPRI has made in addressing the potential for CISCC of welded stainless steel canisters and the NRC staff will continue to provide input on the ongoing industry and EPRI efforts in this area. Thank you for considering our perspective.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mark Lombard, Director
Division of Spent Fuel Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: NRC Comments and Questions
on the EPRI Report

cc: See Attached List

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