



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 7, 2016

LICENSEE: STP Nuclear Operating Company

FACILITY: South Texas Project

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE CALLS HELD ON FEBRUARY 23, 2016, BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND STP NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, CONCERNING THE STAFF'S REVIEW OF THE SUBMERGED CLOSURE BOLTING PORTION OF THE 2014 ANNUAL UPDATE FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION (TAC. NOS. ME4936 AND ME4937)

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) and representatives of STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC or the applicant) held a telephone conference call on February 23, 2016, to discuss and clarify information in the 2014 Annual Update, dated October 22, 2014, for the STP license renewal application (LRA), specifically two additions to Table 3.3.2-4, "Auxiliary Systems - Summary of Aging Management Evaluation - Essential Cooling Water and ECW Screen Wash System." The table was revised to add two new aging management review (AMR) items. The new AMR items address copper alloy closure bolting exposed to a submerged environment of raw water for which the aging effect of loss of material and loss of preload will be managed by the Open Cycle Cooling Water System and Bolting Integrity Programs respectively.

The staff stated that the GALL Report recommends the Bolting Integrity Program to manage the aging effects of both loss of material and loss of preload of closure bolting. The Bolting Integrity Program relies on periodic inspections of closure bolting for indication of leakage to detect the effects of aging for loss of material and loss of preload. The staff also stated that neither the LRA nor the 2014 LRA annual update describes the frequency of inspections how closure bolting in a submerged environment will be inspected under the Bolting Integrity and Open Cycle Cooling Water System. The LRA and 2014 LRA annual update also doesn't provide the frequency of inspections and a justification for such frequency. Considering that the closure bolts are in a submerged environment that prevents the identification of leakage and based on the information in the LRA and the 2014 LRA annual update, it is not clear what frequency of inspections and what inspections methods would be employed by the applicant such that it can adequately manage the aging effects of loss of material and loss of preload of these components under the proposed programs. The applicant stated that it will provide information on the docket describing how the submerged closure bolting will be inspected including the frequency of inspections and its justification for it.

The discussions were useful in clarifying the information the staff needs on the docket to complete the review of the aging effects required to be managed for the closures bolts of the essential cooling water system.

The Enclosure provides the participants.

The applicant had an opportunity to comment on this summary.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Lois M. James, Sr. Project Manager
Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

Enclosure:
List of Participants

cc w/encl: Listserv

The discussions were useful in clarifying the information the staff needs on the docket to complete the review of the aging effects required to be managed for the closures bolts of the essential cooling water system.

The Enclosure provides the participants.

The applicant had an opportunity to comment on this summary.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Lois M. James, Sr. Project Manager
Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499

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**TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
ESSENTIAL COOLING WATER SYSTEM CLOSURE BOLTING
SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION**

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FEBRUARY 23, 2016

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