

## **NRR-PMDAPem Resource**

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**From:** Schaaf, Robert  
**Sent:** Monday, May 02, 2016 1:25 PM  
**To:** Gordon Arent; Casey, Kevin E (kecasey@tva.gov); Wells, Russell Douglas  
**Cc:** Daniels, Desiree L; Edmondson, Carla; Saba, Farideh; Nadel, Jared  
**Subject:** Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, Acceptance for Review of Request for Alternative Inspection of Reactor Pressure Vessel Flange Seal Leak-Off Piping (CAC No. MF7606)

Gentlemen,

By letter dated April 15, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16109A055), the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted a relief request for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 1. The proposed relief request would authorize an alternative to the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel (B&PV) Code, Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components." Specifically, TVA's application proposes an alternative to the requirements of the ASME B&PV Code, Section XI, Paragraph IWC-5221 for nominal pipe size (NPS) 1-inch, 3/4-inch, and 3/8-inch reactor pressure vessel (RPV) flange seal leak-off piping.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide you with the results of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this submittal. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed your submittal and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief request in terms of regulatory requirements and 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. You will be advised of further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-6020.

Regards,

*Robert G. Schaaf*

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