

NRR-PMDAPem Resource

From: Koenick, Stephen
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2016 1:21 PM
To: PYLE, STEPHENIE L
Cc: CLARK, ROBERT W; Kalikian, Roger; Wengert, Thomas; Anderson, Shaun
Subject: Acceptance Review for ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, Unit 1 , Request for Alternative from Volumetric/Surface Examination Frequency Requirements of ASME Code Case N-729-1 (CAC No. MF8007)

Dear Ms. Pyle,

By letter dated June 17, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Nos. ML16173A297), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee), submitted a relief request for Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO), Unit 1, to propose an alternative from volumetric/surface examination frequency requirements of ASME Code Case N-729-1 as conditioned by 10 CFR50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(D). Specifically, Table 1, Item B4.40 of ASME Code Case N-729-1 requires that a volumetric/surface examination be performed within one inspection interval (nominally 10 calendar years) of its inservice date for a replacement reactor vessel closure head. Entergy is requesting that the previously approved one-time deferral of the inspection by 2.5 years be extended until the refueling outage schedule to commence in April of 2021. Entergy's request for alternative concludes that the improved performance of the replacement head materials verses the original head materials justifies the interval inspection extension and that the extension provides an acceptable level of quality and safety in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(z)(i).

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the relief request. 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 application and concluded that it provides technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief requests in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. 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 Stephen Koenick at (301) 415-6631.

Stephen S. Koenick

Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV-2 (LPL4-2)
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing (DORL)
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
(301) 415-6631
Stephen.Koenick@nrc.gov

Hearing Identifier: NRR_PMDA
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From: Koenick, Stephen

Created By: Stephen.Koenick@nrc.gov

Recipients:

"CLARK, ROBERT W" <RCLARK@entergy.com>

Tracking Status: None

"Kalikian, Roger" <Roger.Kalikian@nrc.gov>

Tracking Status: None

"Wengert, Thomas" <Thomas.Wengert@nrc.gov>

Tracking Status: None

"Anderson, Shaun" <Shaun.Anderson@nrc.gov>

Tracking Status: None

"PYLE, STEPHENIE L" <SPYLE@entergy.com>

Tracking Status: None

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