

## **NRR-PMDAPem Resource**

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**From:** Williams, Shawn  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 27, 2016 10:55 AM  
**To:** Redd, Jason P.; Sparkman, Wesley A.; Chamberlain, Amy Christine; RICE, APRIL R; NICHOLAS.R.KELLENBERGER@scana.com  
**Subject:** Please respond by Jan. 5 - Draft RAIs regarding Vogtle, Units 3 and 4, LAR-16-016 and Summer, Units 2 and 3 LAR-16-11

Hi,

See below draft RAIs regarding Vogtle, Units 3 and 4, LAR-16-016 (Lead Plant); and Summer, Units 2 and 3, LAR-16-11, regarding stainless steel (SS) embed plates that both use the same test results.

Please respond by Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, and let me know if you would like to discuss these on the standing Thursday public conference call before we issue.

Thank You,  
Shawn Williams  
NRR/DORL/LPL2-1  
V.C. Summer and Farley PM  
301-415-1009

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**RAI Question 1:**

The proposed Tier 2\* wording describes the testing methodology and results used to justify that the specific population of inaccessible welds that did not receive the appropriate nondestructive examination (NDE) can meet their design requirements. Currently, the proposed Tier 2\* wording describes the impacted welds as:

*The non-conforming partial penetration welds associated with reinforcement bar sizes #6 and #9 C3J couplers installed on ASTM A240 stainless steel embedment plates under CA01 that did not undergo nondestructive examination at the time of fabrication...*

While the proposed Tier 2\* wording describes the impacted welds, it does not clearly state that the testing is only representative of the population of Cives couplers that are referenced in the LAR.

- a. Please clarify the proposed Tier 2\* wording so that it is clear that it is only applicable to this specific population of Cives couplers, and that it is not applicable for future welds that may not receive the appropriate NDE.

**RAI Question 2:**

The design of the Phase II test assembly was to aid in the fit-up for the tensile testing machine, and to attempt to isolate the failure point at the test weld. The test assembly design ground out the threads of the test coupler, filled in the test coupler with weld material, and welded an oversized coupler to the test coupler with a fixture weld. The staff previously requested justification to show that this design would not have any impact on the mechanical properties of the test weld. The LAR states that hardness testing was performed. From the description in the LAR, the hardness testing only shows the potential changes to the mechanical properties at the fillet weld surface. Based on the test assembly design, it

is likely that the majority of the heat input would impact the partial joint penetration (PJP) weld and the heat affected zone (HAZ).

- a. Please provide additional detail related to the hardness testing that demonstrates the test assembly design had no impact on the test weld mechanical properties (particularly at the PJP and HAZ).

The LAR states that several Phase II test welds were “influenced by the fixture weld” during tensile testing and therefore they were not considered as part of the test results.

- b. Please explain what “influenced by the fixture weld” means. The LAR states that there was no impact to the hardness, but some of the test samples’ failures were “influenced by the fixture weld.”

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