

**MRP** Materials Reliability Program \_\_\_\_\_ MRP 2017-011  
(via email)

DATE: March 23, 2017

TO: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-001

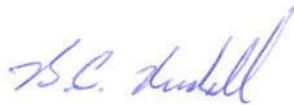
FROM: Bernie Rudell, Exelon, MRP Integration Committee Chairman  
Brian Burgos, EPRI, MRP Program Manager

SUBJECT: Transmittal of NEI-03-08 "Needed" ***Interim Guidance Regarding Baffle Former Bolt inspections for U.S. PWR plants as Defined in Westinghouse NSAL 16-01***

This letter transmits recent NEI 03-08 Interim Guidance regarding the inspection of baffle-former bolts in PWR plants. This guidance was developed by industry in response to recent inspection experiences in 2016 utility outages. This guidance supplements existing recommendations provided by EPRI technical report MRP-227-A, and provides broader guidance for the U.S. PWR plants as defined in Westinghouse's Nuclear Safety Advisory Letter (NSAL) 16-01. EPRI notes that this is the next step in the development of inspection and evaluation guidance for the fleet in response to the recent operating experience. The industry's baffle former bolt focus group will continue its work on the development of additional guidance where appropriate. Note: The interim guidance discussed in the attached supersedes the previous interim guidance transmitted to NRC by MRP-2017-002, dated 1/12/2017 (ML17017A165).

This guidance is being provided for NRC information only. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Brian Burgos, EPRI-MRP ([bburgos@epri.com](mailto:bburgos@epri.com), 724-610-8559) or Kyle Amberge, EPRI-MRP ([kamberge@epri.com](mailto:kamberge@epri.com)).

Sincerely,



Bernie Rudell  
Chairman, Materials Reliability Program



Brian Burgos  
EPRI MRP Program Manager

Attachment: MRP-2017-009, dated 3/15/2017

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