

May 24, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Kevin Hsueh, Chief
Licensing Processes Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Joseph J. Holonich, Senior Project Manager /RA/
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 28 2016, MEETING TO DISCUSS
MECHANICAL STRESS IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES AND THE
CALVERT CLIFFS EXPERIENCE

On September 28, 2016, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with representatives from Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC), NuVision Engineering, and Exelon. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Mechanical Stress Improvement Processes (MSIP[®]) and the Calvert Cliffs experience. Information related to the meeting, including presentations, NEI 96-07, Appendix D, and the attendees list, can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) package accession number ML16256A604.

The WEC representative stated that the meeting was requested because a member of the NRC staff made a comment at recent American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and industry meetings that they may need to reconsider inspection frequency for MSIP[®] mitigated welds. Given these NRC staff statements, industry stated the objective of the meeting was to better understand what the NRC staff was doing. Industry continued that it planned to walk the NRC staff through what has been accomplished in the MSIP[®] area.

To start the discussions, the NRC staff presented information on its research work on pressurized water reactor MSIP[®] analysis and measurements. Copies of the NRC staff presentation can be found in ADAMS Accession No.: ML16274A001.

During the NRC staff presentation, a question was asked about the current rulemaking work to conform the NRC regulations to the 2015 ASME code changes. The NRC staff reported that it had not yet decided if any changes to the MSIP[®] portions of the current regulations would be proposed. With respect to issuance of the rule, the NRC staff anticipated the draft rule would be issued for comment in early 2017. Further, the NRC staff stated it was recommending to the Commission that the comment period be 75 days.

Industry participants made a number of proprietary presentations providing information on MSIP® activities and the Calvert Cliffs experience. A number of question and answer exchanges elaborated on the information in the presentation. In addition, a number of actions were identified.

Actions from the September 28, 2016 meeting are:

1. NuVision will provide report numbers for:
 - a. The Electric Power Research Institute documents referenced in the presentations; and
 - b. The Boiling Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project documents referenced in the presentations.
2. Exelon will provide the drawing of the weld location with weld to elbow distance.
3. NuVision will provide some words on location of elbow and its effect on weld.
4. NuVision will describe how MSIP® was applied to the bevel.
5. The NRC staff will provide the Pacific Northwest Laboratory report

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ADAMS Accession Nos.: Pkg. (ML16256A604); Summary (ML17128A114)

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