



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

EVALUATION OF PENNSYLVANIA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY'S

REQUEST FOR USE OF ASME CODE CASES 1516-1 AND 1567

PENNSYLVANIA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 1

DOCKET NO. 50-387

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated April 27, 1990, Pennsylvania Power & Light Company (the licensee) submitted a request for approval of the use of ASME Code Cases 1516-1 "Welding of Seats in Valves for Section III Applications" and 1567 "Testing Lots of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel Covered Electrodes". The Code Cases 1516-1 and 1567 are to be used for valves in conjunction with modifications during the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SES), Unit 1 fifth refueling outage scheduled to start in September 1990.

2.0 DISCUSSION

The licensee requested to use Code Cases 1516-1 and 1567, because the governing ASME Section III Code edition for Susquehanna SES, Unit 1 is the 1971 Edition, Winter 1972 addendum which does not provide guidance in the areas that the two code cases address and that these code cases are no longer listed with the approved code cases in the latest addition of NRC Regulatory Guides (RG) 1.84 and 1.85. Furthermore, the subject code cases were incorporated in later editions of the Code. The licensee's request for use of each Code Case is discussed below:

Code Case 1516-1 "Welding of Seats in Valves for Section III Applications" is intended to be used on Class I, Double-Disc Gate Valves. The 1971 Edition of ASME Section III did not address welding of non-integral valve seats to the pressure boundary by fillet or partial penetration welds. This code case was endorsed in RG 1.84 until annulment by the ASME in 1975 when it was incorporated into Section NB-4433 of the later editions of ASME Section III.

Code Case 1567 "Testing Lots of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel Covered Electrodes" is intended to be used on Class 1, Double-Disc Gate Valves and Class 3, Gate Valves. The 1971 Edition of ASME Section III did not provide any latitude in the definition of lots of welding electrodes, Code Case 1567 provided alternative rules for establishing testing lots. This code case was endorsed in RG 1.85 until its annulment in 1978 when it was incorporated into Section NB-2420 of the later editions of ASME Section III.

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3.0 CONCLUSION

Based on the fact that Code Cases 1516-1 and 1567 were previously approved to be used in RG 1.84 and 1.85, respectively, and incorporated in later editions of the Code, the staff recommends approval of the licensee's request to use Code Cases 1516-1 and 1567 during the Susquehanna SES, Unit 1 fifth refueling outage. Use of Code Cases 1516-1 and 1567 will not affect the safety functions of the systems for Susquehanna SES, Unit 1 and these code cases will provide the licensee additional guidance which is not provided in the applicable edition of ASME Section III for the facility. Thus, pursuant to 50.55a(a)(3)(i), the staff concludes that the use of the proposed code cases will provide an acceptable level of quality and safety.

Dated: August 21, 1990