

# Public Meeting on Baffle-Former Bolt Degradation

Rockville, MD

July 13, 2017

## ***NRC Baffle-Former Bolts Guidance Development Status***



**Jeff Poehler**

Senior Materials Engineer

NRR/DE/EVIB

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852

+1-301-415-8353

[Jeffrey.Poehler@nrc.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Poehler@nrc.gov)

# Status of NRC Review of EPRI Interim Guidance

- NRC is reviewing two EPRI MRP Interim Guidance Letters
- MRP 2016-021, July 25, 2016
  - Initial examination schedule for Tier 1 plants
- MRP 2017-009, March 15, 2017
  - Initial examination schedule for all tiers
  - Limit on maximum interval for subsequent examination for all tiers
- Both submitted for information only to NRC
- Staff assessment should be complete in late Summer 2017, pending MRP response to questions
- Staff assessment will document NRC's position on the interim guidance, not binding to licenses

# NRC Concerns

- MRP interim guidance does not address methodology of plant-specific evaluations of subsequent examination interval
- Licensees should ensure that subsequent examination intervals:
  - Are based on plant-specific examinations with an appropriate level of rigor
  - Provide reasonable assurance of continued safe operation
- Subsequent examinations are needed to refine predictive models

# NRC Path Forward

- Staff will publish staff assessment to document position on baffle-former bolt inspection guidance (2017)
- NRC will formally document its position on the revised guidance for baffle-former bolts in its safety evaluation of MRP-227, Rev. 1, currently under review.
  - RAI addresses baffle-former bolt examination (response 9/2017)
  - SE expected 3Q 2018, possibly earlier in 2018
- No interim staff guidance, would take as long as MRP-227, Rev. 1 SE, and GALL would still have to be updated later.
- Revise GALL, Rev. 2 and GALL-SLR to reference NRC-approved version of MRP-227, Rev. 1. (2019)