



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

August 7, 1989

AC93-1

PDR

MEMORANDUM FOR: Edward L. Jordan, Chairman
Guy A. Arlotto, NMSS
Denwood F. Ross, RES
Jack R. Goldberg, OGC
James H. Sniezek, NRR
Luis A. Reyes, RII

FROM: Cheryl A. Sakenas, Program Manager
CRGR Staff, AEOD

SUBJECT: ISSUE SHEET FOR CRGR MEETING NO. 167

Enclosed is an issue sheet for the CRGR review of a proposed rule amending 10 CFR 50.55a to incorporate by reference Subsection IWE to Section XI of the ASME Code. This issue is scheduled for CRGR review at Meeting No. 167 on August 9, 1989.

If you have any questions, please call me at x24148.

Cheryl Sakenas

Cheryl A. Sakenas, Program Manager
CRGR Staff, AEOD

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: L. Shao
W. Morris

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Issue Sheet for CRGR Review Item
Meeting No. 167
August 8, 1989

Proposed Amendment to 10 CFR 50.55a to Incorporate By Reference
Subsection IWE, "Requirements for Class MC and Metallic Liners of Class CC
Components of Light-Water Cooled Plants" of Section XI of the ASME Code

The original package was forwarded to you on July 7, 1989 and contains the proposed rule and supporting documentation. This package was missing the last page of the proposed rule and is attached to this enclosure. A second package forwarded to you on July 18, 1989 modifies the staff's endorsement by referencing the current version of the code. The staff has stated that this change is minor and believe it's review can be included with the original submittal.

The staff is recommending adoption of this section of the ASME code to respond to concerns raised over containment integrity by requiring licensees to implement an inservice inspection program on containment components, approved by the NRC.

In the proposed rule, the staff cites the existing regulatory background on this subject. The inclusion of sections from the Standard Technical Specifications does not seem like an appropriate reference in a rulemaking package since it is a lower tier document which all plants have not adopted.

The primary modification, ~~or exception,~~ the staff has made is to require the first inspection to be completed in 5 years, rather than 10, as the code specifies. The rationale for this restriction is not strong. It sounds more like "gut feeling" than one based on need. At best, this would only give licensees three refueling outages to complete these inspections.

It's not clear from the staff's proposal how much of an impact this rulemaking would have on NRC resources. The review package states that the staff would review and approve licensee's ISI plans, but no time estimate is provided. Even the Regulatory Analysis evades this point. An interesting statement is also made that older plants may not be able to comply with all of the requirements, so there is a potential for the need to process many relief requests.

[7590-01]

sified as ASME Code Class MC; and (2) metallic shell and penetration liners which are pressure retaining components and their integral attachments in concrete containments shall meet the inservice inspection requirements applicable to components which are classified as ASME Code Class CC.

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Dated at _____ this _____ day of _____ 19__

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
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Victor Stello, Jr.
Executive Director for Operations.