

January 4, 1996



U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attn: Document Control Desk

Subject: Quad Cities Station Unit 1  
Augmented Examination of the Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) Shell Welds  
Pursuant to 10CFR50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(A)  
NRC Docket Nos. 50-254

In accordance with 10CFR50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(A), Quad Cities Station plans to conduct an augmented examination of the Unit 1 reactor pressure vessel (RPV) shell welds during the upcoming refuel outage Q1R14, currently scheduled to begin in February 1996. Quad Cities Station expects that less than 90% of the examination volume of RPV shell welds (ASME Section XI, Category B-A, Item B1.10 shell welds) will be achieved using currently available remote examination technology. Less than 90% examination volume does not satisfy the augmented examination requirements for the RPV shell welds. However, subsection 6(ii)(A)(5) allows licensees unable to satisfy this augmented examination requirement to propose an alternative that provides an acceptable level of quality and safety.

Pursuant to the rules of subsection 6(ii)(A)(5), Quad Cities Station proposes the following examination plan for RPV shell welds (Item B1.10 RPV shell welds).

#### PROPOSED EXAMINATION PLAN

The RPV shell welds (ASME Section XI, Category B-A, Item B1.10 shell welds) will be ultrasonically examined (a) remotely from the inside of the reactor vessel to the extent possible and (b) manually from the outside of the vessel where remote inside examination is not achieved and where scheduled bioshield wall blocks and insulation materials disassembly allows access.

The remote internal examinations will be performed in accordance with the remote ultrasonic examination procedure developed by General Electric, which was demonstrated at the Performance Demonstration Initiative Qualification in accordance with the rules of Appendix VIII of ASME Section XI, 1992 Edition through 1993 Addenda. Based on the results of the Quad Cities Unit 1 reactor vessel accessibility study, examination coverage of approximately 71% of the RPV shell weld volume is possible from the inside of the vessel.

The aforementioned remote internal examinations will be supplemented by manual ultrasonic examinations that will be performed from the outside surface to the extent practical. The manual ultrasonic examinations will be performed in accordance with the rules of IWA-2230 of ASME Section XI, 1989 Edition, as modified by Regulatory Guide 1.150.

A report will be submitted to the Commission for information within 90 days after the completion of the refuel outage, which will provide details on examination coverage and results.

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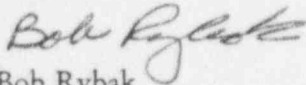
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January 4, 1996

ComEd requests approval of this alternative approach ,as soon as possible, in order to support the upcoming Unit 1 outage scheduled to begin in February 1996.

If there are any questions pertaining to this letter, please direct them to this office.

Respectfully,



Bob Rybak  
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

cc: H. Miller, Regional Administrator - RIII  
R. Pulsifer, Project Manager - NRR  
C. Miller, Senior Resident Inspector - Quad Cities  
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety - IDNS

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