Successive Examinations for Flaws Found by Augmented Inspection Programs

MATTHEW A. MITCHELL, CHIEF PIPING AND HEAD PENETRATIONS BRANCH

The Question

A licensee discovered flaws/indications during a VIP-75/GL 88-01 examination which, while not IGSCC flaws, required evaluation per IWB-3600.

Regional staff raised a question with DNRL staff regarding whether ASME Code successive examination criteria applied in this case.

NRC Perspective

Regardless of the motivation for performing the original examination:

- Same ASME Code Class System Involved
- Same Weld Being Inspected
- Same Flaw/Indication Discovered
- Same IWB-3600 Evaluation Required
- Same Successive Examination Criteria Per IWB-2420

- Unless an alternative under 50.55a(z) can be justified and approved