



**STEVE SWILLEY**  
Vice President and Deputy  
Chief Nuclear Officer

Ref. EPRI Docket No. 99902016

November 21, 2023

Document Control Desk  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Request for Withholding of the following Proprietary Document:

BWRVIP-03, Revision 20: BWR Vessel and Internals Project,  
Reactor Pressure Vessel and Internals Examination Guidelines,  
EPRI Technical Report 3002010675

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a request under 10 C.F.R. §2.390(a)(4) that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") withhold from public disclosure the information identified in the enclosed Affidavit consisting of the proprietary information owned by Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. ("EPRI") identified above in the attached report. Proprietary and non-proprietary versions of the Report and the Affidavit in support of this request are enclosed.

EPRI desires to disclose the Report in confidence as a means of exchanging technical information with the NRC. The Report is not to be divulged to anyone outside of the NRC or to any of its contractors, nor shall any copies be made of the Report provided herein. EPRI welcomes any discussions and/or questions relating to the information enclosed. In case the NRC rejects this affidavit for protection for any reason, EPRI requests that the NRC contact the EPRI project manager and EPRI Order Center ([vvaughn@epri.com](mailto:vvaughn@epri.com)) with an offer of an opportunity for EPRI to withdraw this submittal.

If you have any questions about the legal aspects of this request for withholding, please do not hesitate to contact me. Questions on the content of the Report should be directed to Nathan Palm of EPRI at (724) 288-4043.

Sincerely,

Attachment(s)

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## AFFIDAVIT

Subject: Request for Withholding of the Following Proprietary Document:

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Reactor Pressure Vessel and Internals Examination Guidelines,  
EPRI Technical Report 3002010675

I, Steve Swilley, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

I am the Vice President and Deputy Chief Nuclear Officer at Electric Power Research Institute, Inc., whose principal office is located at 3420 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, California ("EPRI"), and I have been specifically delegated responsibility for the above-listed Report that is sought under this Affidavit to be withheld (the "Report"). I am authorized to apply to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") for the withholding of the Report on behalf of EPRI.

EPRI Proprietary Information is identified in the above-referenced report with highlighted yellow shading. The pages with the proprietary information are also marked with the letters "TS" in the page footer, indicating that information is considered trade secrets in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390.

EPRI requests that the Report be withheld from the public on the following bases:

Withholding Based Upon Privileged and Confidential Trade Secrets or Commercial or Financial Information (see e.g. 10 C.F.R. §2.390(a)(4)):

a. The Report is owned by EPRI and has been held in confidence by EPRI. All entities accepting copies of the Report do so subject to written agreements imposing an obligation upon the recipient to maintain the confidentiality of the Report. The Report is disclosed only to parties who agree, in writing, to preserve the confidentiality thereof.

b. EPRI considers the Report and the proprietary information contained therein (the "Proprietary Information") to constitute trade secrets of EPRI. As such, EPRI holds the Report in confidence, and disclosure thereof is strictly limited to individuals and entities who have agreed, in writing, to maintain the confidentiality of the Report. EPRI made a substantial economic investment to develop the Report, and by prohibiting public disclosure, EPRI derives an economic benefit in the form of licensing royalties and other additional fees from the confidential nature of the Report. If the Report and the Proprietary Information were publicly available to consultants and/or other businesses providing services in the electric and/or nuclear power industry, they would be able to use the Report for their own commercial benefit and profit and without expending substantial economic resources required of EPRI to develop the Report.

c. EPRI's classification of the Report and the Proprietary Information as trade secrets is justified by the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, which California adopted in 1984 and a version of which has been adopted by over forty states. The California Uniform Trade Secrets Act, California Civil Code §§3426 – 3426.11, defines a "trade secret" as follows:

"Trade secret" means information, including a formula, pattern, compilation, program device, method, technique, or process, that:

(1) Derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to the public or to other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and

2) Is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy."

d. The Report and the Proprietary Information contained therein are not generally known or available to the public. EPRI developed the Report only after making a determination that the Proprietary Information was not available from public sources. EPRI made a substantial investment of both money and employee hours in the development of the Report. EPRI was required to devote these resources and effort to derive the Proprietary Information and the Report. As a result of such effort and cost, both in terms of dollars spent and dedicated employee time, the Report is highly valuable to EPRI.

e. A public disclosure of the Proprietary Information would be highly likely to cause substantial harm to EPRI's competitive position and the ability of EPRI to license the Proprietary Information both domestically and internationally. The Proprietary Information and Report can only be acquired and/or duplicated by others using an equivalent investment of time and effort.

I have read the foregoing, and the matters stated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I make this affidavit under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the laws of the State of North Carolina.

Executed at 1300 W WT Harris Blvd, Charlotte, NC, being the premises and place of business of Electric Power Research Institute, Inc.

Date: 11/21/23

ASB  
Steve Swilley

(State of North Carolina)  
(County of Mecklenburg)

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this 21 day of November, 2023 by Steve Swilley, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person who appeared before me.

Signature Andrea B Sheriff

My Commission Expires 22 day of August, 2028

