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LTR-NRC-24-30
July 21, 2024

Subject: Interim Report of the Evaluation of a Deviation Pursuant to 10 CFR 21.21(a)(2)

Description of the Deviation

On May 10, 2024, Westinghouse was notified by a utility of cracking in a Westinghouse control rod blade (CRB). This blade was inspected due to a reduced rod worth event during the previous cycle. Further inspection supported by the utility and Westinghouse identified cracking in four of the Westinghouse-supplied Generation 3 CR-99 CRBs. At least one wing of one blade experienced full mechanical separation and other blades experienced cracking that exceeded Westinghouse's previous experience at the calculated levels of depletion. The utility successfully shut down (inserted) the damaged CRBs and removed them from the core. Further evaluation is needed to determine the relationship between the mechanical end of life and nuclear end of life and external mechanisms impacting either or both.

Utility partners that currently utilize CR-99 CRBs have been notified of the inspection and results. No operational limitations have been recommended by Westinghouse at this time.

Evaluation Completion Date

Westinghouse expects to complete its 10 CFR Part 21 Evaluation on or before September 20, 2024.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Camille Zozula'.

Camille T. Zozula
Part 21 Program Manager

cc: E. Lenning