



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 22, 2026

MEMORANDUM TO: Greg Oberson, Branch Chief
Advanced Reactor Science Branch 1
Division of Advanced Reactor Science
Office of Advance Reactors

FROM: Alexandra R. Terres, Reactor Systems Engineer **/RA/**
Advanced Reactor Engineering Branch 5
Division of Advanced Reactor Engineering
Office of Advance Reactors

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SUMMARY OF
THE MAY 7, 2026, PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING AMERICAN
SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS CODE CASE N-940:
ALTERNATE RULES FOR NON-DESTRUCTIVE EXAMINATION
AND TESTING OF ASME SECTION III NUCLEAR ITEMS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted an "Observation" public meeting on May 7, 2026, to hold discussions with MPR Associates (MPR) representatives regarding American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Case (CC) N-940: Alternate Rules for Non-Destructive Examination and Testing of ASME Section III Nuclear Items. There was no closed session for this meeting. NRC staff presentation can be found at the NRC's Agencywide Document Control and Access System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML26126A049. MPR presentation can be found at ML26126A042.

Highlights of the meeting are listed below:

- The meeting aimed to discuss the NRC's position on ASME CC N-940, focusing on the staff's conditions on the endorsement of CC N-940 in Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.87 "Acceptability of ASME Code Section III, Division 5, 'High Temperature Reactors'".
- The ASME CC allows for alternate rules for non-destructive examination (NDE) and testing for the construction of ASME Section III nuclear items commensurate with an item's contribution to safety or risk.
- The NRC staff explained their regulatory position, reaffirming that the code conditions represent what staff believe are generically acceptable approaches that do not restrict NDE and testing alternatives to specific reactor technology or design.

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- MPR highlighted the industry's interest in improving commercial viability by providing new options for construction on Section III items commensurate with their contribution to safety or risk via alternative requirements.
- The discussion revealed differing interpretations of the conditions on endorsement of CC N-940. The NRC staff's position is that the conditions do not restrict alternative approaches, however the approach needs to be justified by a designer and is subject to NRC review and approval.

Key points from the discussions are listed below:

- NRC staff discussed the endorsement of CC N-940 in RG 1.87, Revision 3, outlining the conditions for non-safety related with special treatment (NSRST) components contained in RG 1.87. Staff emphasized the importance of flexibility, clarity, and continued dialogue with industry stakeholders regarding industry needs for alternative rules.
- MPR presented the technical basis for CC N-940, explaining the rationale for alternate requirements in Section III, the alignment with industrial codes, and the initiative to increase the value of Section 3 by incorporating risk-informed categorization and treatment of components for advanced reactor technologies.
- Both the NRC and industry participants acknowledged the need for flexibility in sampling approaches to accommodate a wide range of use cases and discussed the use of statistical sampling compared to a workmanship approach. NRC staff proposed sampling and examination methodologies that aim to balance reasonable confidence with reduced industry burden.
- The definition of moderate energy piping, alignment with system leak test requirements, and the condition requiring NRC approval for application to non-water fluid systems were discussed. NRC staff noted that moderate energy piping could encompass systems outside the bounds of Category D fluid service, especially in advanced reactors. The discussion highlighted the need for clear terminology to bound CC applicability.

The meeting concluded with a call for continued stakeholder engagement in communicating industry needs in parallel with CC development.

There was a public comment expressing appreciation for the meeting and continued collaboration between the NRC and industry.

No regulatory decisions were made at this meeting.

The public meeting notice posted on the NRC public website can be found at ADAMS Accession No. ML26100A161. The enclosure to this summary provides a list of meeting attendance.

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

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ENGINEERS CODE CASE N-940: ALTERNATE RULES FOR NON-
DESTRUCTIVE EXAMINATION AND TESTING OF ASME SECTION III NUCLEAR
ITEMS
DATED: JULY 22, 2026

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Memo: ML26175A381
NRC Slides: ML26126A049
MPR Slides: ML26126A042
Meeting Notice: ML26126A042

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SUMMARY OF THE MAY 7, 2026, PUBLIC
MEETING REGARDING AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS CODE CASE
N-940: ALTERNATE RULES FOR NON-DESTRUCTIVE EXAMINATION AND TESTING OF
ASME SECTION III NUCLEAR ITEMS**

**LIST OF ATTENDEES
May 7, 2026**

Name	Organization
Matthew Hiser	Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Joe Bass	NRC
Bruce Lin	NRC
Greg Oberson	NRC
Kamal Manoly	NRC
Alexandra Terres	NRC
Steven Levitus	NRC
Ian Tseng	NRC
Ching Ng	NRC
Clair Song	NRC
Rachel Romano	MPR Associates
Suzanne McKillop	MPR Associates
Tim Stuhldreher	Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)
Bruce Greer	Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
Doug Kull	EPRI
Breanne Towers	Constellation
Joseph Cullinan	Constellation
Maher Kassar	Constellation
Jie Wen	Jensen Hughes
Dale Matthews	Framatome
Kyle Luna	Natura Resources
Daniel Lamond	GSE Solutions
Brett McGlone	NuSource LLC
Katherine Burke	Vistra Corp
Deann Raleigh	Curtiss-Wright