

May 28, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: David L. Skeen, Acting Program Director
Policy and Rulemaking Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, NRR

FROM: Joseph L. Birmingham, Project Manager */RA/*
Policy and Rulemaking Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, NRR

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF APRIL 30, 2003, MEETING WITH NUCLEAR ENERGY
INSTITUTE (NEI) ON THE STATUS OF STEAM GENERATOR ISSUES

On April 30, 2003, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with representatives from NEI and industry at the NRC's office in Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of various steam generator issues. Attachment 1 is a list of those that attended the meeting. Attachment 2 is the information provided by NEI for the meeting (ADAMS Accession No. ML031210723).

After introductions, Mr. Jim Riley, of NEI, stated that industry wanted to present the results of the tube sever study and to discuss other issues such as degradation assessment and volumetric flaws. Industry also wanted to discuss the process for tracking and closing open items. He then introduced Ms. Kaye Chandler, of Framatome ANP, who presented the results of the tube sever study relevant to once-through steam generators (OTSGs) and Mr. Bob Keating, of Westinghouse, who presented the study results for recirculating steam generators (RSGs).

Ms. Chandler presented a brief history of the issue stating that a sever occurred in a plugged tube at Three Mile Island (TMI) and resulted in wear on four surrounding tubes. Ms. Chandler outlined recommendations for plugged tube assessments, inspection, and monitoring in OTSGs. Detailed information on the analysis, the damage mechanisms, and the recommendations can be found in Attachment 2.

Mr. Keating then presented information on plugged tubes in RSGs. A key point was that, although there are cases of plugged tubes that have burst axially in RSGs, no tube severs have been suspected or observed. Mr. Keating outlined recommendations for assessment and stabilization of plugged tube in RSGs. Details of the information on plugged tubes in RSGs can be found in Attachment 2.

The NRC staff asked some clarifying questions on the presentation which industry answered. At this point, the NRC asked if there were any questions from the public and David Lochbaum, of the Union of Concerned Scientists, asked a question about burst pressure for plugged tubes which industry answered. NEI then indicated that the final report for the tube sever study was under review and would be submitted to the NRC in June.

Industry and the NRC then discussed the status of several ongoing issues including, volumetric flaws, structural integrity performance criterion, and interim guidance or information letters resulting from recent industry steam generator events. During this part of the meeting, there was a discussion on when a localized flaw crosses the threshold into a gross structural failure and whether there should be a discussion of this in the guidelines. Industry said there may be some discussion in the guideline but it was still under consideration.

The group then discussed the process for technical issue tracking and agreed to arrange a meeting to go over the issues. It was also agreed that a teleconference might be useful for reviewing a small number of issues but not a large number at a time. NEI noted that several of the items could be closed after the tube sever study and the in situ test guidelines were issued.

The group did not choose a date for the next meeting but agreed to continue meeting approximately every 3 months. Having completed the items on the agenda, the meeting adjourned.

PROJECT No. 689

Attachments: As stated

cc: Jim Riley, NEI

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List of Attendees for 10/30/02 meeting on SG Issues

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Jim Riley	NEI
Forrest Hundley	Southern Co.
Rick Mullins	Southern Co.
Helen Cothron	TVA
Mohammed Behraves	EPRI
Bob Keating	Westinghouse
C. Kaye Chandler	Framatome ANP
Stuart B. Brown	Framatome ANP
M.K. Au-Yang	Framatome ANP
Gary Henry	RD Tech
Dan Mayes	Duke
Greg Kammerdeiner	FENOC
Rich Freeman	Amergen
Bob Exner	PG&E
David Lochbaum	UCS
Emmet Murphy	NRC\NRR\EMCB
Chris Grimes	NRC\NRR\RPRP
Joseph Birmingham	NRC\NRR\RPRP
Karen Gott	SKI NRC\RES\DET
Paul Klein	NRC\NRR\EMCB
Ken Karwoski	NRC\NRR\EMCB
Martin Murphy	NRC\NRR\EMCB
Deann Raleigh	LIS, Scientech