

October 28, 2003

Mr. John L. Skolds, President  
Exelon Nuclear  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF STEAM GENERATOR TUBE INSPECTION REPORT  
BRAIDWOOD STATION, UNIT 2, NINTH REFUELING OUTAGE, APRIL 2002  
(TAC NO. MB8476)

Dear Mr. Skolds:

By letters dated May 10, 2002 (ML021480394) and April 9, 2003 (ML031110379), Exelon Generation Company, the licensee for Braidwood Station, submitted reports from the steam generator (SG) inspections performed in Unit 2 during the ninth refueling outage in April 2002. These reports were submitted in accordance with Braidwood Station technical specifications 5.6.9.a and 5.6.9.b. After initial review, the NRC staff developed a set of questions and the requested information was submitted by the licensee in a letter dated July 29, 2003 (ML032200254). The NRC's evaluation of the inspection results is summarized below.

Braidwood Station, Unit 2 has four Model D-5 recirculating steam generators that began operation in 1988. Each steam generator contains 4,570 thermally treated Alloy 600 tubes. Each tube has a nominal outside diameter of 0.750 inches and nominal thickness of 0.043 inches. The tubes were hydraulically expanded at both ends for the full length of the tubesheet, and they are supported by stainless steel support plates with quatrefoil-shaped holes. The U-bend portion is supported by four chromium-plated Alloy 600 anti-vibration bars (AVBs).

During the 2002 outage, the licensee performed bobbin coil inspections on 100 percent of the tubes in SG 2A. Rotating probe inspections were performed at some of the locations with bobbin coil indications. No eddy current inspections were performed in SGs 2B, 2C, or 2D. As a result of these inspections, two tubes were plugged due to wear at anti-vibration bars. Anti-vibration bar wear was the only degradation mode reported from the inspection.

Foreign object search and retrieval (FOSAR) was performed on the secondary side in all four steam generators. The FOSAR inspections revealed a total of six objects in SGs 2B (2 objects), 2C (1 object), and 2D (3 objects), four of which were removed. The licensee found no indications of degradation associated with foreign objects. Additional details regarding these loose parts can be found in the licensee's July 29, 2003 letter.

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Based on a review of the information provided by the licensee, the NRC staff concludes that the information the licensee was required to submit according to their technical specifications was provided and that no additional follow-up is required at this time.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Mahesh Chawla, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: STN 50-456 and STN 50-457

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Based on a review of the information provided by the licensee, the NRC staff concludes that the information the licensee was required to submit according to their technical specifications was provided and that no additional follow-up is required at this time.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mahesh Chawla, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: STN 50-456 and STN 50-457

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