



NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

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USED FUEL STORAGE AND
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February 22, 2012

Mr. Steve R. Ruffin
Project Manager
Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: RIRP Issue Closure Form Top Nozzle SCC I-10-01

Project Code: 689

Dear Mr. Ruffin:

At the NRC/NEI public meeting on February 14, 2012, we discussed the resolution of the RIRP Top Nozzle SCC issue, which is being addressed using NEI's Regulatory Issue Resolution Protocol (RIRP), NEI 10-03.

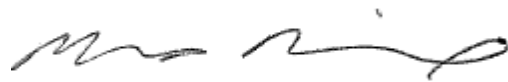
NEI has, with industry support, incorporated the comments and suggestions from the meeting on February 14th into the attached RIRP Closure Form. This closure form documents the resolution of the RIRP issue for Top Nozzle SCC, which has resulted from numerous and detailed technical and regulatory discussions between the NRC and industry in the form of public meetings and formal communications since early 2010. Through these meetings and formal communications, the NRC and industry have reached consensus on 1) whether the four variants require a Part 71 and/or Part 72 CoC/license amendment, and 2) the technical aspects that any supporting analyses/evaluations, as necessary, need to consider. We believe that the Closure Form properly characterizes the issue resolution that constitutes successful closure of the RIRP scope of this issue. However, two additional actions, listed in the attachment under Tracking Items, are required fully document final resolution of the Top Nozzle SCC issue.

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As indicated in the Closure Form and committed to by the NRC at the February 14th meeting, the NRC will provide by April 30, 2012 an interim record documenting issue resolution and indicating the NRC's plans for issuing a durable record. NEI will subsequently monitor and evaluate the effectiveness with which this resolution is implemented and provide feedback to the industry and NRC.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'm nichol', with a stylized, cursive script.

Marcus Nichol

Attachment

c: Mr. Douglas W. Weaver, NMSS/DSFST
Mr. Michael D. Waters, NMSS/DSFST
Mr. David W. Pstrack, NMSS/DSFST
Mr. Jason M. Piottter, NMSS/DSFST
NEI Dry Storage Task Force
NEI Top Nozzle Issue Resolution Team