

January 24, 2014

ASME Section XI Secretary
ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee
Two Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016-5990

Subject: Code Inquiry: Table IWB-2500-1, Examination Category B-K, Welded Attachments for Vessels, Piping, Pumps and Valves, Item B10.10;

The following is a request for interpretation of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, regarding the requirements for the examination of weld buildup for supports of the reactor vessel.

I thank you in advance for considering this inquiry. I plan on attending the next ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code meeting in San Diego, and will plan to attend the Section XI inquiry session and the other related meetings to help explain the specifics of the inquiry. I look forward to these discussions.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Timothy R. Lupold
Branch Chief
Piping & NDE Branch
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Enclosure:
Request for ASME Code Interpretation

cc: Ryan Crane

Purpose: Request for ASME Code Interpretation

Background:

ASME Code, Section XI, Table IWB-2500-1, Examination Category B-K, Welded Attachments for Vessels, Piping, Pumps, and Valves, Item B10.10, requires pressure vessel welded attachments to be examined using a surface examination method during each inspection interval. Note 1 to Table IWB-2500-1, Examination Category B-K, is applicable to item number B10.10. This note provides exclusion for the examination of weld buildup on nozzles that is in compression under normal conditions and provides only component support.

Applicability: ASME Code, Section XI, 1998 Edition through 2013 Edition

Proposed Inquiry:

Subject: Table IWB-2500-1, Examination Category B-K, Welded Attachments for Vessels, Piping, Pumps, and Valves, Item B10.10

Inquiry 1: Is it a requirement of Item B10.10 of Table IWB-2500-1 to perform a surface examination of the weld buildup associated with a vessel support if the weld buildup is subjected to shear stresses in addition to compressive stresses during normal conditions?

Reply 1: Yes.

Inquiry 2: Is it a requirement of Item B10.10 of Table IWB-2500-1 to perform a surface examination of the weld buildup associated with a vessel support if the vessel support serves as a restraint in addition to a vertical component support under normal conditions?

Reply 2: Yes.