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Performance-Based ECCS Cladding Acceptance Criteria

Comment On: NRC-2008-0332-0073
Performance-Based Emergency Core Cooling Systems Cladding Acceptance Criteria; Extension of Comment Period

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General Comment

The NRC Glossary, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/basic-ref/glossary/cladding.html>, defines cladding as follows: The thin-walled metal tube that forms the outer jacket of a nuclear fuel rod. It prevents corrosion of the fuel by the coolant and the release of fission products into the coolant. Aluminum, stainless steel, and zirconium alloys are common cladding materials. However, 10 CFR Part 50.46(a)(1)(i) and 10 CFR Part 50.46(c) limit the cladding material to zircaloy or ZIRLO and "zirconium-alloy," respectively. The definition of cladding in the NRC Glossary may need to be revised according to the requirements of the rule by deleting Aluminum and stainless steel.