



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 6, 2015

LICENSEE: Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.

FACILITY: Palisades Nuclear Plant

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF APRIL 14, 2015, MEETING WITH ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC., ON PLANS FOR VOLUMETRIC EXAMINATIONS OF PRIMARY COOLANT SYSTEM ALLOY 600 WELDS (TAC NO. MF5905)

On April 14, 2015, a Category 1 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and representatives of Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENO), at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of this pre-application meeting was to discuss the licensee's activities underway to develop examination techniques for primary coolant system Alloy 600 welds, the anticipated challenges ahead in developing the examination techniques for the upcoming fall refueling outage, and a possible relief request for performing the inspections. The meeting notice and agenda, dated March 31, 2015, is available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML15090A432. A list of attendees is provided as an enclosure.

The licensee's slide presentation followed handout material provided during the meeting, which is available in ADAMS at Accession No. ML15107A306. During the meeting, the licensee noted a correction to slide 47, and provided corrected slides, which are available in ADAMS at Accession No. ML15107A307.

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., discussed its progress in preparing for the primary coolant system branch connection dissimilar metal weld inspections to be performed at Palisades Nuclear Plant during the 2015 refueling outage that will begin in the fall, as well as its plans to submit a relief request for inspection of these welds.

Meeting points of discussion and comments are summarized below:

- A performance demonstration initiative (PDI) qualified ultrasonic testing technique is in development by a vendor with Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) support, and planned completion is just prior to the 2015 refueling outage.
- Welding concerns were identified during the welding of the first mockup. EPRI is working on a solution.
- An optional eddy current test is impractical.
- Repair/replacement contingencies are in development, and are planned to be completed just before the 2015 refueling outage.
- Entergy discussed the industry activities that are ongoing, but the NRC staff stated that the relief request should focus on the planned alternative and not on future activities that have not yet been approved.
- Entergy plans to submit a relief request in May 2015 because of hardship (in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulation* (10 CFR) 50.55a(a)(3)(ii), which is now

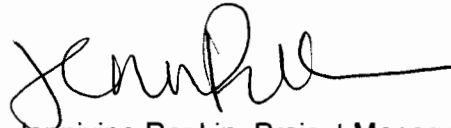
10 CFR 50.55a(z)(2) in the revised regulation. The relief request will seek to defer inspections of the primary coolant system branch connection welds until the next refueling outage, scheduled for spring 2017.

- Entergy provided details on the basis for its proposed alternative, but noted that the final submittal is still under development.

Before the meeting adjourned, all meeting participants were given the opportunity to comment on any aspects of the meeting. Members of the public were in attendance via telephone conference and provided comments or asked questions of the NRC staff, which the staff addressed during the meeting.

No regulatory decisions or commitments were made during the meeting. The NRC staff received no meeting feedback forms.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-1530, or Jennivine.Rankin@nrc.gov.



Jennivine Rankin, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-255

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

LIST OF ATTENDEES

APRIL 14, 2015, PUBLIC MEETING WITH ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.,
PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Jennie Rankin	NRR/DORL
Kim Green	NRR/DORL
Stephen Cumblidge	NRR/DE
Michael Benson	RES/DE/CIB
Bob Davis	NRR/DE/EPNB
Jay Collins	NRR/DE
David Alley	NRR/DE
David Pelton	NRR/DORL
John Lubinski	NRR/DE
Ben Beasley	NRR/DORL
Mel Holmberg	Region III
Eric Duncan	Region III
David Hills	Region III
Brent Boston	Region III
Jay Lennartz	Region III
Nicholas McMurray	Region III
Prema Chandrathil	Region III
Alex Garmoe	Region III
Alex Schwab	Region III
Jeff Erickson	Entergy
Otto Gustafson	Entergy
Jeff Hardy	Entergy
William Sims	Entergy
William Harper	Entergy

Enclosure

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Jacob Milliken	Entergy
Mike Bratton	Entergy
David Mannai	Entergy
Chris Lohse	Structural Integrity Associates
Dick Mattson	Structural Integrity Associates
Carl Latiolais	EPRI
Ronnie Swain	EPRI
Robert Grizzi	EPRI
Doug Kull	EPRI
John Abbott	EPRI
Stephen Davis	Sargent and Lundy
Kevin Kamps	Beyond Nuclear
Michael Keegan	Don't Waste Michigan
Alice Hirt	

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/RA/

Jennivine Rankin, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
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ADAMS Accession Nos. Meeting Notice ML15090A432 Meeting Summary ML15119A044
Handouts: ML15107A306/ML15107A307

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NAME	KGreen	JRankin	MHenderson	DAlley	DPelton	JRankin
DATE	05/04/2015	05/04/2015	05/04/2015	05/04/2015	05/06/2015	05/06/2015

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