

MRP Materials Reliability Program _____ MRP 2017-002
(via email)

DATE: January 12, 2017

PROJ 0689

TO: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-001

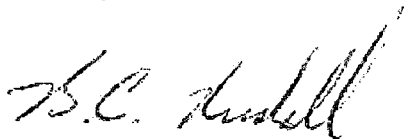
FROM: Bernie Rudell, Exelon, MRP Integration Committee Chairman
Brian Burgos, EPRI, MRP Program Manager

SUBJECT: Transmittal of NEI-03-08 "Needed" *Interim Guidance Regarding Baffle Former Bolt inspections for Tier 2 plants as Defined in Westinghouse NSAL 16-01*

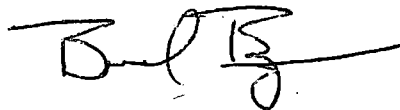
This letter transmits recent NEI 03-08 Interim Guidance regarding the inspection of baffle-former bolts in PWR plants. This guidance was developed by industry in response to recent inspection experiences in 2016 utility outages. This guidance supplements existing recommendations provided by EPRI technical report MRP-227-A, and provides immediate guidance for the Tier 2 plants as defined in Westinghouse's Nuclear Safety Advisory Letter (NSAL) 16-01. Note that Interim Guidance for the Tier 1 plants was transmitted under MRP letter MRP 2016-022 dated July 27, 2016 (ML16211A054). EPRI notes that this is the next step in the development of broader guidance for the fleet in response to the recent operating experience. The industry's baffle former bolt focus group will continue its work on the development of additional guidance where appropriate.

This guidance is being provided for NRC information only. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Brian Burgos, EPRI-MRP (bburgos@epri.com, 724-610-8559) or Kyle Amberge, EPRI-MRP (kamberge@epri.com).

Sincerely,



Bernie Rudell
Chairman, Materials Reliability Program



Brian Burgos
EPRI MRP Program Manager

Cc: Joe Holonich, NRC

Attachment: MRP-2016-033, dated 9/27/2016
Reference: EPRI Project Number 689

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MRP Materials Reliability Program _____ MRP 2016-033
(via email)

DATE: September 29, 2016

TO: MRP Integration Committee Members

FROM: Dave Czufin, TVA, PMMP Chairman
Anne Demma, EPRI, MRP Program Manager

SUBJECT: Transmittal of NEI-03-08 "Needed" *Interim Guidance Regarding Baffle Former Bolt inspections for Tier 2 plants as Defined in Westinghouse NSAL 16-01*

The purpose of this letter is to inform members of the MRP Integration Committee (IC) that the Pressurized Water Reactor Materials Management Program (PMMP) Executive Committee has endorsed implementation of Interim Guidance Regarding Baffle Former Bolt inspections for Tier 2 plants.

Westinghouse NSAL-16-1 identifies Tier 2 plants that have shown evidence of Baffle-Former Bolt (BFB) indications by volumetric UT inspections during previous inspection campaigns as being at-risk for emergent inspection and repair scopes in future outages. Therefore, additional interim guidance to supplement WCAP-17096-NP Revision 2 for these plants is considered reasonable and appropriate. The intent of the interim guidance is to promptly evaluate results from previous UT examinations and ascertain changes in the physical conditions of BFBs from the past several operating cycles if necessary.

The Tier 2 domestic plants are: R. E. Ginna, Prairie Island 1 & 2, H. B. Robinson 2, Surry 1 & 2, Turkey Point 3 & 4

Interim Guidance - Consistent with the requirements of WCAP-17096-NP Revision 2, as well as MRP-227 and MRP-228 as currently prescribed, the following interim guidance is issued under NEI 03-08 as "Needed" guidance:

1. Plants identified as Tier 2 in Westinghouse NSAL-16-1 which have performed MRP-227 UT examinations of the BFBs, within 4-months from issuance of this interim guidance, shall review inspection records from prior UT examinations to identify clustering in the bolt failure patterns. As noted in the NSAL, clustering is defined as 3 or more adjacent bolts (located either on the same vertical and/or horizontal plane) or a total number of failures in a single baffle plate greater than 40% of the total number of bolts on that baffle plate.
 - a) Plants identifying the onset of clustering shall perform supplemental examination of the full population of baffle-former bolts at the next scheduled refueling outage. The type of examination (e.g., UT, VT-3, etc.)

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shall be determined by the plant and should consider the previous extent of degradation detected.

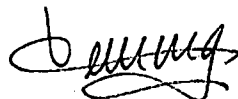
- *If relevant BFB indications are identified during the supplemental examination, they shall be evaluated in the plant corrective action program to determine if additional corrective actions are warranted during the current or future refueling outages (consistent with the Tier 1b plants).*
 - *If VT-3 is used for the supplemental examination and visual degradation is not detected, the plant shall address the clustering observed in the previous UT examinations through the plant corrective action program. A plant-specific evaluation (for example, a probabilistic damage projection) demonstrating that acceptable bolting will be maintained over a specified interval with adequate confidence may be employed to establish the continued applicability of the 10-year reinspection interval of MRP-227-A, or a shorter interval, if necessary.*
- b) Plants that do not identify clustering in the UT data review shall continue to follow the MRP-227 guidance for the timing of subsequent BFB UT examinations and follow the General Recommendations for all Tiers in NSAL-16-1.*
- 2. Plants identified as Tier 2 in the Westinghouse NSAL-16-1 which have not yet performed MRP-227 UT of the BFBs shall continue to follow the MRP-227 guidance for the timing of initial BFB UT examinations and follow the General Recommendations for all Tiers in NSAL-16-1.*

The guidance herein was developed by the joint EPRI/PWR Owners Group Baffle-Former Bolt Focus Group (BFB FG) to provide immediate guidance to Tier 2 plants as defined in the Westinghouse Nuclear Safety Advisory Letter (NSAL-16-1). This guidance is supplemental to the Interim Guidance promulgated by EPRI letter MRP 2016-021, dated 7/25/2016.

Sincerely,



David Czufin
Chairman, PMMP
Tennessee Valley Authority



Anne Demma
MRP Program Manager
Electric Power Research Institute

Cc: MRP Assessment TAC
MRP Inspection TAC
MRP Mitigation & Testing TAC

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