

NRC Proposed Condition on Encoded Volumetric Examinations on Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds

January 18, 2017

Jay Collins

Proposed Condition

- Current proposed condition
 - Ultrasonic examinations performed in accordance with Table 1 of N-770-2 for Inspection Items A-1, A-2, B, E, F-2, J and K shall be performed for 100 percent of the required inspection volume using an encoded method
 - Requires encoded volumetric examinations for all non-mitigated and cracked mitigated welds.

Implementation

- Required to be implemented 30 days after the publication of the final rule (expected Spring/Summer 2017)
- Plants in a refueling outage when the final rule is implemented, with required N-770-2 weld volumetric examinations, will be required to perform encoded examinations

Relief Options Within 6 Months

- Within 6 months of final rule implementation, NRC will consider requests to extend the volumetric inspections on uncracked welds one outage to perform encoded examinations
 - There must be a hardship to perform exam during the current outage
 - Visual exams during walkdown
 - Cracked welds on a case by case basis

Relief Options

- For plants with physical limitation/hardship
 - Consistent technical basis with relief requests for missed inspection coverage
 - Best effort encoding examination is expected
 - Scan maps showing areas of missed encoding
 - Impracticality cannot be used for relief from these requirements

Questions

