

Current NRC Perspective on the Endorsement of ASME Section III, Division 5, High Temperature Reactors

Advanced Reactor Stakeholder Meeting

12/14/17

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Recognize the importance of ASME Section III, Division 5

- NRC staff participate in multiple ASME Code Committees involved in the development of ASME Section III, Division 5
- Staff appreciate the work done by industry, DOE, and other representatives in developing ASME Section III, Division 5 to date

ASME Section III, Division 5 Endorsement Concerns

- Endorsement objective is to achieve regulatory efficiency and effectiveness
- However, endorsement will be resource intensive
 - Hundreds of pages of Code to review
- Review could impact the availability of resources to address other advanced reactor framework development topics
- Staff expect to review as an “acceptable method of meeting the regulations” rather than as a requirement and identify conditions on its use

Industry Input

- NRC needs industry input in order to make a recommendation about initiating the endorsement process
- NRC Questions:
 - Does ASME Section III, Division 5, with minimal need for exceptions, support the designs being developed for potential NRC review?
 - What additional improvements could be made to ASME Section III, Division 5 to support prospective vendors?