

March 13, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Edwin M Hackett, Acting Chief
Materials Engineering Branch
Division of Engineering Technology
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Wallace E. Norris
Materials Engineering Branch
Division of Engineering Technology
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT FROM THE MEETING OF ASME BOILER &
PRESSURE VESSEL MAIN COMMITTEE (MC) ON MARCH 3, 2000

The referenced meeting was held at the Adams Mark Hotel and Convention Center, Daytona Beach, FL, on March 3, 2000. Reports on the items considered the most significant for Section III and Section XI are contained in the attachments to this memorandum. Information on all items from Section III, Section XI, and the other sections is available in the writer's file.

Attachments: As stated

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COMMITTEE: ASME BOILER & PRESSURE VESSEL MAIN COMMITTEE (MC)

DATE OF MEETING: March 3, 2000

NRC MEMBER: GILBERT MILLMAN

MEETING ATTENDED BY: WALLACE NORRIS

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

- A. The next ASME meetings are scheduled for the week of May 15, 2000, in Toronto, Ontario. The MC will meet on Friday, May 19, at 8:00 a.m.

II. RESOLUTION OF NEGATIVE BALLOTS

A. Section III Items

There were 4 Section III items which had received negatives and/or comments from letter ballots. All four items had received many negatives and thus, the presenter for each of these items made a determination to withdraw the items.

B. Section XI Items

There was 1 Section XI Item, develop rules for Class 1 mechanical tube plugs, which received 4 negatives from other committee members. Based on the nature of the negatives, the presenter made a determination to withdraw this item.

III. PRESENTATION ITEMS

No votes were taken on the following items. Presentations were made to the committee to provide information prior to letter ballot.

Section III

- (1) Code Case N-595-2, "Requirements for Spent Fuel Storage Canisters," - This was the first of two proposed changes to this Code Case. Since the changes are not directly related, the Section III chairman decided not to combine the changes (page 23 of Handout). The Code Case addresses ultrasonic examination of end closure welds of ferritic steel canisters. This change recognizes the difficulty in examining the inside surface of end welds of canisters loaded with fuel.
- (2) Code Case N-595-2 - The second change to this Code Case would permit a field hydrostatic pressure drop test as an alternative to costly shop pressure testing. The basis for this change is that the canisters are overdesigned (i.e., to resist puncture/cracking from falls, the canister walls are much thicker than they would be in designing only for overpressurization), and a hydrostatic test yields no additional useful information

Section XI

Code Case N-600, "Transfer of Welder, Welding Operator, Brazer, and Brazing Operator Qualifications Between Owners" - This item originally received 12 negatives at the MC. Gil Millman was one of the negative commentators. His comment was that there is no requirement for the end user to confirm, as required by Appendix B, that the qualification and certification activities were performed in accordance with a QA Program that met the requirements of IWA-1400 and was effectively implemented at the time these activities were performed. The sponsor of the Code Case elected not to address this comment on the basis that Appendix B has to be followed regardless of what the Code Case states. There have been instances in the past, however, where licensees followed a Code Case in the belief that the Code Case provisions provided a fully acceptable alternative. I voted negatively on this item on March 1, 2000, at Subgroup on Water-Cooled Systems.