

2007-245 \_\_\_\_\_ BWR Vessel & Internals Project (BWRVIP)

August 27, 2007

Document Control Desk  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

Attention: John Honcharik

Subject: Project No. 704 – Revision to BWRVIP-84

Reference: Letter from Carl Terry (BWRVIP Chairman) to Document Control Desk (NRC),  
“Project 704 – BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Guidelines for Selection and Use  
of Materials for Repairs to BWR Internals (BWRVIP-84), EPRI Report 1000248,  
October 2000,” dated November 6, 2000.

The purpose of this letter is to inform the NRC staff of a revision to the BWRVIP document  
entitled “BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Guidelines for Selection and Use of Materials for  
Repairs to BWR Internal Components (BWRVIP-84).”

Paragraph A.9.3.1 deals with fabrication of 300 Series stainless steel components and currently  
states:

**A.9.3.1 Bending Process**

Components formed by bending shall be fully solution annealed after the bending  
process.

Utilities have noted that this restriction prohibits the use of crimping to secure bolted  
connections. This restriction is unnecessary given the good track record of crimped keepers.  
However, given that the crimping could theoretically promote localized crack initiation, it is  
appropriate to give special consideration to crimped components. The following revision to  
paragraph A.9.3.1 has been implemented:

Revision

**A.9.3.1 Bending Processes**

Except as provided in Section A.9.3.4, components formed by bending shall be fully  
solution annealed after the bending process. However, non-structural components (such  
as keepers or crimping cups used for fastening bolted connections) may be formed in-  
place without solution annealing provided that sufficient, periodic, inservice inspections

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are performed at appropriate intervals in order to identify cracking that could result in a loose part or loss of function of the keeper.

The BWRVIP will include the above revision in BWRVIP-84-A which will be published subsequent to receipt of the NRC Safety Evaluation of the report.

If you have any questions on this subject, please contact Denver Atwood (Southern Nuclear, BWRVIP Repair Focus Group Chairman) by telephone at 205.992.7461.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Libra". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent dot above the letter 'i'.

Richard Libra  
Chairman, BWR Vessel and Internals Project