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Hardies, Robert

From: Stevens, Gary *RES*
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 7:55 AM
To: Roussel Guy
Cc: Hardies, Robert; Csontos, Aladar
Subject: RE: Doel 3 - Tihange 2 RPV issue

Guy:

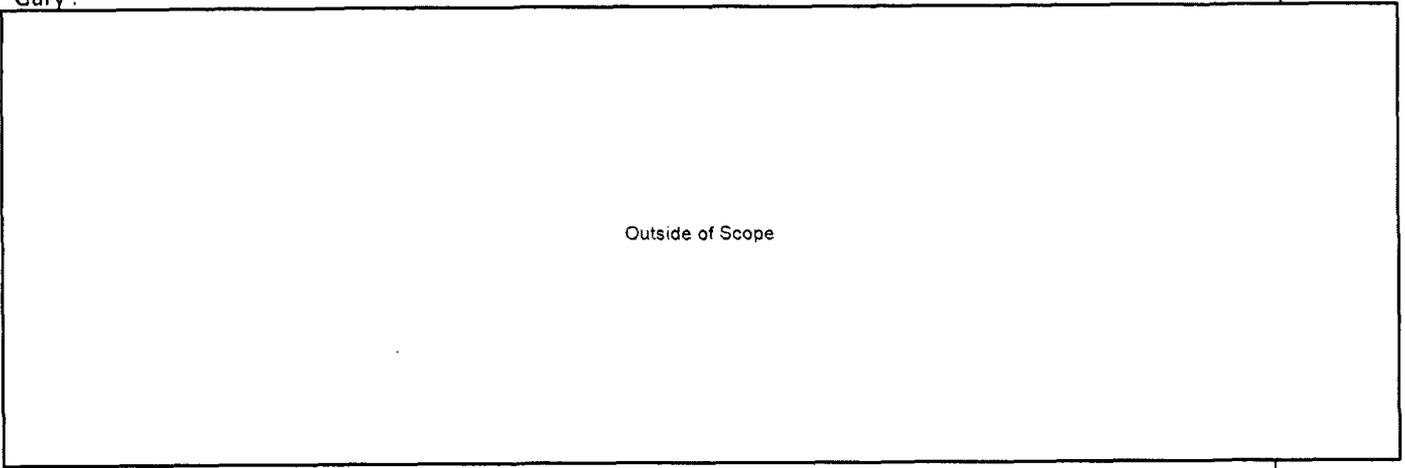
It is acceptable for you to visit next week on the 15th and 16th. I am out of the office through Monday, and will set up meetings with others for your visit. But, for now, please plan to arrive at 0930 on Thursday the 15th; I will plan to finish all meetings with you by noon on Friday the 16th.

I will provide more details for you later. Let me know if you need any information for your travel to the U. S. and stay here.

Best Regards,
Gary L. Stevens
Senior Materials Engineer
NRC/RES/DE/CIB
 Gary.Stevens@nrc.gov
 301-251-7569

From: Roussel Guy [guy.roussel@Belv.be]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 5:42 AM
To: Stevens, Gary
Cc: Hardies, Robert
Subject: RE: Doel 3 - Tihange 2 RPV issue

Gary :



Best regards,

Guy Roussel

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From: Stevens, Gary [mailto:Gary.Stevens@nrc.gov]
Sent: jeudi 1 novembre 2012 20:57
To: Rousseau Guy
Cc: Hardies, Robert; Csontos, Aladar
Subject: RE: Doel 3 - Tihange 2 RPV Issue

Guy:

We have discussed your request below. I have several items for you in response to your note and resulting from our discussion:

- Regarding your desire to obtain "the point of view of the NRC":
 - NRC's understanding for the Doel issue is as follows, as indicated in your Introductory Remarks Presentation for the October 16th WG3 Meeting and the Terms of Reference for this effort:
 - "... it is essential that each expert feels free to express his personal opinion" and "The Belgian nuclear safety authorities acknowledge [sic] that, by expressing his opinion in the WG, a member does not necessarily express the views of the organization to which he belongs;"
 - In view of the above, myself and other NRC staff members are available to give you our personal and technical opinions on the 6 subjects requested in your e-mail. Those opinions, however, do not represent an NRC position.
 - NRC is not able to provide the NRC position on these subjects at this time. A formal NRC position on this matter will not be available before sometime next year.
 - I am providing this clarification of our role on this project so that you understand how we will respond to future endeavors on this effort and your potential visit to the NRC Offices, and that you can make sure that such a trip is a success for you.
- Regarding your request to travel to the NRC for a meeting on November 19th and 20th:
 - As we previously discussed, the week of November 19th is the week of the Thanksgiving Holiday here in the U.S., and I am not available that week.
 - Our previous follow-on correspondence identified November 15th and 16th as possible alternate dates for you to visit the NRC. Those dates are satisfactory for us except that we have a public meeting on November 15th from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm where we will not be available. The public meeting is a pre-submittal meeting with First Energy for the Beaver Valley plant and their future planned submittal to the NRC associated with the Alternate PTS Rule, 10 CFR 50.61a. You may be interested in that meeting, and you are welcome to attend. The meeting announcement is attached. If not, then perhaps earlier that week would be better for your visit.
 - I will do my best to gather and coordinate relevant NRC staff members for your visit. However, it is very difficult to find common open times as the staff are very busy at this time of year, and there are holidays approaching and year-end activities and vacations already planned. So, I will do my best to gather the staff in response to your visit, and I will ask them to discuss your six issues with you and to give you their personal technical opinions in the time they have available. Please recognize that many of the staff have other meetings and appointments already set up for that week, so they are only available during certain hours of any day.
 - Based on the above information, please let me know what you would like to do in regards to visiting the NRC.
- When are the next Working Group meetings going to be held in Belgium? It is important, both from the standpoint of NRC management approval plus our individual availability for the rest of the year, that we know these dates as soon as possible.
- Regarding my response to the summary analyses provided by the Licensee, my personal opinion is that those evaluations appear from their summary description to be technically sound, comprehensive, and complete, and are consistent with evaluations I would perform if I was asked to do so. As I

- requested during the WG3 meeting last month, I would like to see the detailed calculations behind all of those summary documents before being able to provide further detailed opinions.
- NRC is still planning to hold a public meeting with the U.S. industry on issues related to Doel in December. I will keep you informed of any further plans on this topic.

Please let me know your responses to the above information and requests.

Best Regards,
Gary L. Stevens
Senior Materials Engineer
NRC/RES/DE/CIB
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Office: 301-251-7569
Blackberry: (b)(6)

From: Roussel Guy [<mailto:guy.roussel@Belv.be>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 2:15 AM
To: Stevens, Gary
Cc: Hardies, Robert
Subject: Doel 3 - Tihange 2 RPV issue

Gary :

As I mentioned to you last Tuesday in Brussels, I would appreciate if we could discuss more deeply about the Doel 3 – Tihange 2 RPV issue. Scheduling this discussion at the time of the NRC public meeting on this topic would undoubtedly be profitable but I understand from your recent e-mail that the public meeting will likely not be held in the coming weeks. The safety case of the Licensee for the Doel 3 RPV issue is planned to be transmitted to us by the end of November but I'm committed to inform the Licensee of my major concerns about his evaluation procedure ("strategy") by the end of October. A draft letter is ready for internal review: most of the topics discussed during the meeting of October 16, 2012 are taken into consideration. I'm expecting a hard discussion with the Licensee since a satisfactory response to some of the concerns would require extensive efforts from the Licensee. With regard to that, I think that knowing the point of view of the NRC could help me greatly. The major concerns are:

- (1) evaluation procedure for multiple flaws (and necessity of validation)
- (2) local fracture toughness properties
- (3) definition of the thermal loads
- (4) demonstration of structural integrity for thousands of defects due to fabrication problem
- (5) role of the probabilistic analysis
- (6) other safety analyses to be revisited

You also mentioned to me that you had a look on some of the calculations provided by the Licensee. I know that the justification reports will be discussed during the next meeting of the Working Group but your preliminary remarks would be helpful.

I understand that you will be very busy the first two weeks of November. So, if you agree to schedule the meeting in November, I would propose Monday 19th and, if necessary, Tuesday 20th.

Thank you for your collaboration.

Best regards,

Guy

Guy Roussel

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