NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC–2011–0096]

Draft Regulatory Guide: Issuance, Availability

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.


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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing for public comment a draft guide in the agency’s “Regulatory Guide” series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the NRC’s regulations, techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft regulatory guide (DG), titled, “Inservice Inspection of Prestressed Concrete Containment Structures with Grouted Tendons,” is temporarily identified by its task number, DG–1197, which should be mentioned in all related correspondence.

DG–1197, proposed Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.90, describes an approach that the staff of the NRC considers acceptable for use in developing an appropriate surveillance program for prestressed concrete containment structures with grouted tendons. The purpose of this guide is to provide recommendations for inservice inspection (ISI) of containments and quality standards that should be maintained when portland cement grout is used for the corrosion protection of prestressing steel.


Among the specific requirements of GDC 53 are that the containment be designed to permit (1) appropriate periodic inspection of all important areas and (2) an appropriate surveillance program.

II. Further Information

The NRC staff is soliciting comments on DG–1197. Comments may be accompanied by relevant information or supporting data, and should mention DG–1197 in the subject line.

ADDRESSES: Please include Docket ID NRC–2011–0096 in the subject line of your comments. Comments submitted in writing or in electronic form will be posted on the NRC Web site and on the Federal rulemaking Web site, http://www.regulations.gov. Because your comments will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information, the NRC cautions you against including any information in your submission that you do not want to be publicly disclosed.

The NRC requests that any party soliciting or aggregating comments received from other persons for submission to the NRC inform those persons that the NRC will not edit their comments to remove any identifying or contact information, and therefore, they should not include any information in their comments that they do not want publicly disclosed. You may submit comments by any one of the following methods:

• Federal Register Web Site: Go to http://www.regulations.gov and search for documents filed under Docket ID NRC–2011–0096. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher, telephone: 301–492–3668; e-mail: Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov.
• Mail comments to: Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch (RADB), Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWB–05–B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.
• Fax comments to: RADB at 301–492–3446.

You can access publicly available documents related to this notice using the following methods:

• NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR): The public may examine and have copied, for a fee, publicly available documents at the NRC’s PDR, O1–F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.
• NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): Publicly available documents created or received at the NRC are
available online in the NRC Library at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. From this page, the public can gain entry into ADAMS, which provides text and image files of the NRC's public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC's PDR reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The Regulatory Analysis is available electronically under ADAMS Accession Number ML103190466.

1.0 Background

Exemption

Virginia Electric Power Company, LLC, NUCLEAR REGULATORY
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Authorized by Law

This exemption would allow the licensee to install features to collect any oil that accumulates on the coolers from oil mist condensation instead of preventing the oil mist from escaping the OCS. As stated above, 10 CFR 50.12 allows the NRC to grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50. The NRC staff has determined that granting of the licensee’s proposed exemption will not result in a violation of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or the Commission’s regulations. Therefore, the exemption is authorized by law.

No Undue Risk to Public Health and Safety

The underlying purposes of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.O is to ensure that failure of the RCP lube oil system will not lead to fire during normal or design basis accident conditions and that there is reasonable assurance that the system will withstand the Safe Shutdown Earthquake. The regulation intends licensees to accomplish this by extending the concept of defense-in-depth to fire protection in fire areas important to safety, with the following objectives:

1. Prevent fires from starting;
2. To rapidly detect, control, and extinguish promptly those fires that do occur;
3. To provide protection for structures, systems, and components important to safety so that a fire that is not promptly extinguished by the fire suppression activities will not prevent the safe shutdown (SSD) of the plant.

In their request, as supplemented, the licensee described elements of their fire protection program that provide their justification that the concept of defense-in-depth that is in place in the affected important to safety fire area (FA), FA 1–1, is consistent with that required by the regulation. The licensee states in their request, as supplemented, that the modification to install oil collection trays on the coolers with piping connected to the RCP OCS is scheduled to be installed during the next Unit 1 refueling outage. Operating experience based on a similar design for Unit 2 has indicated that the oil mist primarily condenses on the coolers and the oil collection tray collects oil dripping from the coolers. This will reduce the potential for significant quantities of oil pooling to occur outside the OCS. The remaining oil sheen that may develop due to misting does not present a safety