

Buried and Underground Piping and Tanks

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Summary

- NRC's objectives related to buried piping
 - Maintenance of intended nuclear operations safety function
 - Releases remain below regulatory limits
- Current regulations and industry activities are adequate with regard to these objectives
- NRC is monitoring and responding to events related to buried piping
- NRC is working to understand and assess licensee implementation of the Underground Piping and Tanks Integrity Initiative

Buried Piping Action Plan

- Revision 3 Updated April, 17, 2013
- No new action items
- All activities scheduled to be completed and the Action Plan will be closed Spring, 2015



Ongoing Items

- Gather leak and tritium release data
- Meet with industry
- Evaluate guided wave
- Maintain NRC Public Website Buried Piping Page
 - <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-experience/buried-piping-activities.html>
- Participate in ASME and NACE activities
- Stay abreast of ongoing industry research



Currently Remaining Action Plan Items

- Safety related piping is given appropriate inspection priority and ASME Section XI IWA-5244 tests are being performed as required
- Evaluate the need for regulatory changes



Codes and Standards

- ASME Code
 - Section XI established a committee to address leaks from buried piping
 - » Consideration of enhanced inspection requirements
 - » Consideration of extension of scope to nonsafety-related piping that contains tritium
 - Task Group on Buried Components Inspection and Testing
- NACE International (formerly National Association of Corrosion Engineers)
 - Task groups to develop standards for nuclear buried piping



TI-182 Status

- Both inspection phases complete
- Evaluation in progress



License Renewal

- Revised buried piping aging management program
- Internal corrosion ISG complete
- Coatings ISG complete
- Evaluating changes to AMP XI.M41 for subsequent license renewal.



Conclusions

- NRC's objectives related to buried piping
 - Maintenance of intended function
 - Releases remain below regulatory limits
- Current regulations and industry activities are compatible with these objectives
- NRC is monitoring current events related to buried piping
- NRC is performing action plan activities, including monitoring industry initiatives

