

**MRP** Materials Reliability Program \_\_\_\_\_ MRP 2016-022  
(via email)

DATE: July 27, 2016

TO: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-001

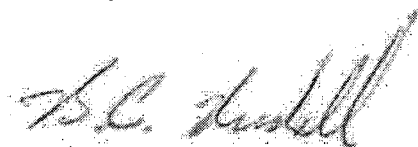
FROM: Bernie Rudell, Exelon, MRP Integration Committee Chairman  
Anne Demma, EPRI, MRP Program Manager

SUBJECT: Transmittal of NEI-03-08 "Needed" *Interim Guidance Regarding Baffle Former Bolt inspections for Tier 1 plants as Defined in Westinghouse NSAL 16-01*

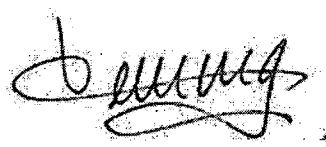
This letter transmits for NRC information recent NEI 03-08 Interim Guidance regarding the inspection of baffle-former bolts in PWR plants. As discussed during the 7/19/2016 public meeting with NRC, this guidance was developed by industry in response to recent inspection experiences in spring 2016 utility outages. This guidance supplements existing recommendations provided by EPRI technical report MRP-227-A, and provides immediate guidance for the Tier 1 plants as defined in Westinghouse's Nuclear Safety Advisory Letter (NSAL) 16-01. EPRI notes that this is the first step in the development of broader guidance for the fleet in response to the recent operating experience. The industry's baffle former bolt focus group will continue its work on the development of additional guidance where appropriate.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Brian Burgos, EPRI-MRP ([bburgos@epri.com](mailto:bburgos@epri.com), 724-610-8559) or Tim Wells, Southern Nuclear ([TGWELLS@southernco.com](mailto:TGWELLS@southernco.com), 205-992-7460).

Sincerely,



Bernie Rudell  
Chairman, Materials Reliability Program



Anne Demma  
EPRI MRP Program Manager

Cc: Joe Holonich, NRC

Attachment: MRP 2016-021 Letter

Reference: EPRI Project Number 689

Together . . . Shaping the Future of Electricity

D046  
NRR

**MRP Materials Reliability Program** \_\_\_\_\_ MRP 2016-021

(via email)

DATE: July 25, 2016

TO: MRP Members

FROM: Bernie Rudell, Exelon, MRP Integration Committee Chairman  
Anne Demma, EPRI, MRP Program Manager

SUBJECT: Transmittal of NEI-03-08 "Needed" *Interim Guidance Regarding Baffle Former Bolt inspections for Tier 1 plants as Defined in Westinghouse NSAL 16-01*

The purpose of this letter is to issue Interim Guidance regarding the inspection of baffle-former bolts. This Interim Guidance is "Needed" as defined in NEI 03-08.

The guidance was developed and approved at the PMMP level to provide immediate guidance for the Tier 1 plants as defined in the Westinghouse NSAL 16-01. This is the first step in the development of broader guidance for the fleet in response to the recent operating experience. The Baffle Former Bolt Focus Group will continue its work on the development of additional guidance where appropriate. This work includes development of criteria for plants to use should they choose to replace bolts in lieu of the inspections required by the new interim guidance contained in this transmittal.

Interim Guidance:

*Consistent with the requirements of MRP-227 and MRP-228 as currently prescribed, the following interim guidance is issued under NEI 03-08 as "Needed" guidance.*

*All plants identified as Tier 1a plants in Westinghouse NSAL 16-1 shall perform an ultrasonic examination (UT) volumetric inspection of the full population of baffle-former bolts at the next scheduled refueling outage.*

*Plants identified as Tier 1b in Westinghouse NSAL 16-1 shall complete a visual VT-3 examination of the full population of baffle-former bolts at the next scheduled refueling outage. If degradation is detected the plant shall complete actions consistent with Tier 1a plants, if no degradation is detected during the visual VT-3 examination, an ultrasonic examination (UT) consistent with Tier 1a plants' guidance shall be completed during the second refueling outage after issuance of this interim guidance.*

*Those plants are:*

Together . . . Shaping the Future of Electricity

**PALO ALTO OFFICE**

3420 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94304-1338 USA • 650.855.2000 • Customer Service 800.313.3774 • www.epri.com

- D.C. Cook 1 & 2 (Tier 1a)
- Diablo Canyon 1 (Tier 1a)
- Indian Point 2\* & 3(Tier 1a)
- Salem 1\* & 2 (Tier 1a)
- Sequoyah 1 & 2 (Tier 1b)

*\*Plants that have already completed an ultrasonic examination in their most recent refueling outage and are under the plant-specific corrective action processes for baffle-former bolt examination acceptance, evaluation, and re-examination.*

Sincerely,



Bernie Rudell  
Chairman, Materials Reliability Program



Anne Demma  
EPRI MRP Program Manager

Together . . . Shaping the Future of Electricity

**PALO ALTO OFFICE**

3420 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94304-1338 USA • 650.855.2000 • Customer Service 800.313.3774 • [www.epri.com](http://www.epri.com)