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Inspection specifications leading to extended ASTRID Design rules

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CEA initiated a study in 2008 for improving design rules of Fast Reactors, with French utilities (EDF), French Designers (AREVA) and Non Destructive Examination (NDE) specialists (Aix Marseille University), and dealing with the specific aspect of in-service inspection (ISI).

Thus, at the end of 2012, RCC-MRx specifications for NDE code could be enlarged, extending those performed at manufacturing stage to periodic inspection.

Due to the complexity of the links between design, material, access, inspection techniques and tools, these rules cannot be strict instructions but rather lead to a fruitful dialogue between Designers and Controllers. Further work on the links between in service inspection (NDE) and manufacturing processes and specifications is now in progress. This article will present the approach and R&D program in support of this specific

This initiative should lead to a better connection and compromise between design work, material specification and in service inspection.

Country/Int. Organization

France/CEA

Author: Mr BAQUE, Francois (CEA)

Co-authors: Mrs GUEUDRE, Cecile (AMU); Mr CORNELOUP, Gilles (AMU); Mr AUGEM, Jean-Michel

(EDF); Mrs PLOIX, Marie-Aude (AMU); Mr MARLIER, Regis (AREVA-NP)

Presenter: Mr BAQUE, Francois (CEA)

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