

N326. Through-Wall Upper Vessel Head Cracks at Jose Cabrera

The first incidence of upper vessel head penetration cracking in Spain was discovered in January at Union Fenosa's Jose Cabrera plant - a one-loop 160 MWe Westinhouse PWR which entered commercial operation in 1969.

The reason for the cracking has not been determined yet, but the mechanism appeared to be different from other vessel head cracking, the utility said.

Jose Cabrera is now in an extended outage and all spare CRDM (control rod drive mechanism) housings are to be inspected.

For more, "Through-Wall Upper Vessel Head Cracks at Jose Cabrera," Nuclear Engineering International, p.3, March 1994.