Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0010-938X(16)30073-7

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.corsci.2016.02.030

Reference: CS 6667

To appear in:

Received date: 4-9-2015 Revised date: 19-12-2015 Accepted date: 15-2-2016

Please cite this article as: Lijin Dong, Qunjia Peng, En-Hou Han, Wei Ke, Lei Wang, Stress Corrosion Cracking in the Heat Affected Zone of a Stainless Steel 308L-316L Weld Joint in Primary Water, Corrosion Science http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.corsci.2016.02.030

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Stress Corrosion Cracking in the Heat Affected Zone of a Stainless Steel 308L-316L Weld Joint in Primary Water

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Highlights

- Studied stress corrosion cracking (SCC) in a stainless steel 308L-316L weld joint.
- SCC growth in the heat affected zone (HAZ) affected by chemistry of the primary water.
- SCC grew in the HAZ in off-normal water chemistry with dissolved oxygen (DO).
- No SCC growth in the HAZ in normal water chemistry with dissolved hydrogen.
- Low SCC growth rate in the HAZ likely relates to the low residual strain level.
- SCC in the HAZ in primary water with DO follows the slip-oxidation mechanism.

ABSTRACT

Stress corrosion cracking (SCC) in the heat affected zone (HAZ) of a stainless steel 308L-316L weld joint in primary water of pressurized water reactor was investigated. Stress corrosion crack growth in the HAZ was observed in off-normal primary water chemistry with dissolved oxygen, but not in normal primary water chemistry with dissolved hydrogen. This suggests that it is unlikely a stress corrosion crack propagating in the HAZ could reach the fusion

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