Hope Creek Circulating Water Pipeline 2013 Carbon Fiber Upgrade

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Background- Hope Creek Generating Station



- Located in Salem, NJ
- Station consists of 1,268 MW boiling water reactor (BWR)
- Circulating Water System consists of 144in PCCP
- Pipelines have been inspected for the past 8 years and distressed pipes have been identified

Background- PCCP Deterioration

- Cracking of Outer Mortar
- Corrosion or Embrittlement of Wires
- Wires Break
- Mortar Coating Delaminates
- Concrete Core Delaminates
- Core Cracks
- Failure





Background- Project Details

Project Scope:

 Carbon fiber reinforced polymer (CFRP) composite lining of seven (7) sections of 144-in PCCP during the October 2013 outage

Unique Project Challenges:

- Removal of muck and construction of access through cooling tower basin
- Single point of entry to complete all in-pipe activities
- Construction of 2-tiered access within the 144-inch diameter pipeline
- Changes in elevation and slope conditions within scope area
- Removal of a pre-existing carbon fiber system

QA/QC Program:

- 3rd party Quality Control inspector
- Full time Quality Assurance manager
- Multiple owner representatives

Background- Quality Control Program

and the			Project: 130265-RF18: Hope Greek, CFRP Lining of Line A Inspector: Anna Homore and Stan Bostan									
structural		Dates of Construction October 2013 refueing outage										
		Contractor: STRUCTURAL Installation Supervisors: Tain Dunn and Jasoin Alexander										
Pipe No. A-122	-			Installation -	supervisors.	an cunn a	and Jason Me	rancer				
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C SURFACE PRE												
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Surface		8								10/21/2013		
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Layer 3	H	10/23/2013	14:00	78	76	43	50	- 57	42	AP	10/23/2013	
Layer 4	н	10/23/2013	18:30	79	76	42	- 52	- 54	42	AP	10/23/2013	
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Multiple QA/QC Personnel

- 3rd Party inspector
- Full time Quality Assurance Manager
- Multiple Owner Representatives

Documentation for each stage of implementation

- Material verification
- Surface preparation
- Mixing and saturation
- CFRP liner installation
- End details and special detailing
- Top coat
- Final cure



- Cooling water tower basin filled with muck
- De-mucking required prior to access into the pipeline
- Quantity of muck unknown prior to start of outage
- Specialty scaffolding required to bring materials and personnel from staging area into basin



- Materials, personnel, and ventilation equipment all routed through a single point of entry
- Main access to the circulating water pipe required navigation through a butterfly valve
- Substrate had buildup of existing epoxy (remainder of failed carbon fiber lining system), sometimes over 1/2in thick
- Exact condition of substrate unknown prior to removal of coating

Key Project Step: Surface Preparation



Project Step:

 Surface preparation performed using Sponge Blasting to minimize airborne particulates and to avoid utilizing a separate surface preparation method for end joint details

- All prepared concrete substrates achieved a minimum surface profile of ICRI CSP 3
- All substrates cleaned and dried prior to installation of CFRP system

Key Project Step: Surface Preparation



Project Step:

 CFRP lining system terminates into the steel substrate to ensure water tightness

- All prepared steel surfaces achieved a near white metal blast SP10 and a minimum surface roughness of 2 mils
- All substrates cleaned and dried prior to installation of CFRP system





- Extensive pitting and concrete patches observed on prepared substrate
- Additional details identified that were not shown on drawings
- Specialty detailing to accommodate thermowell was designed after construction began

Key Project Step: Mixing and Saturation





Project Steps:

- Materials arrive on site in premeasured containers for part A and B components
- Designated mixing region is an isolated area to avoid material contamination
- Mechanical saturator ensures consistent application of epoxy to carbon fiber
 QC Documentation:
 - Lot numbers of fabrics and epoxies are documented
 - Gap between saturator rollers measured and calibrated using weigh test
 - Weigh test verifies ratio of fabric to epoxy iswithin tolerance (1:1 for carbon fiber fabric,0.8:1 for glass fiber fabric ±10%)

Key Project Step: Adhesion Testing

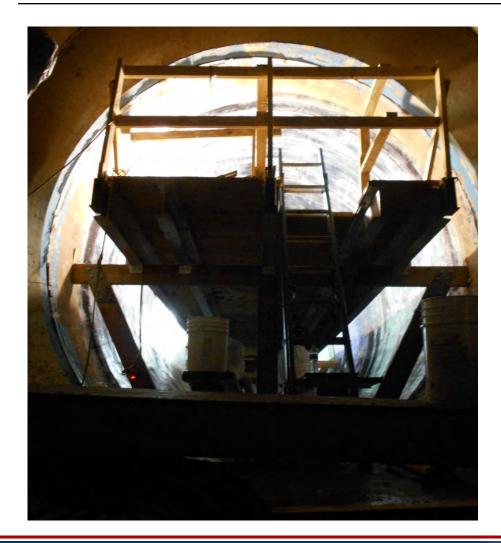




Project Step:

 Surface preparation is verified by performing an adhesion test per ASTM D4541 on an adjacent section of prepared pipe

- A minimum of three (3) test pulls performed at three separate test regions
- Failure mode documented
- Minimum pull-off test of 200 psi required



Project required custom built twotiered engineered scaffold for the following requirements:

- Live load of 25 psf
- 30 ft spans
- Changes in vertical slope midway through span
- Specialty connection designs required by PSEG safety dept
- All materials required to fit through limited access into the pipes

Key Project Step: End Joint Details





Project Steps:

- Epoxy mortar in joint region used to create a sloped transition for the CFRP
- Glass layer installed in direct contact with steel substrate to create a dielectric barrier between the CFRP and steel
- All layers of longitudinal and circumferential CFRP installed onto the main pipe are also installed into the joint

- Slope of epoxy mortar verified (2:1 slope)
- Air temperature, and surface temperature documented (min of 40°F)
- Humidity in pipe monitored (min of 5°F above dew point)

Key Project Step: CFRP Installation





Project Steps:

- Unidirectional mechanically saturated carbon fiber fabric installed in both longitudinal and circumferential directions
- CFRP design serves as stand alone system to resist 100psi internal pressure and -14.7 psi vacuum pressure without reliance on host pipe

- Air temperature, surface temperature, and humidity during installation documented
- Alignment of CFRP layers observed (maximum of 5 degree misalignment)
- Minimum development length of 12in in fiber direction

Key Project Step: CFRP Final Cure



Project Step:

 After top coat is installed, final cure of CFRP system is performed at elevated temperature

- Air temperature, surface temperature, and humidity during CFRP cure recorded
- Shore D hardness values throughout pipe recorded to document progression of cure
- Degree of cure testing performed to verify degree of cure achieved for CFRP system

Key Project Step: CFRP Tensile Test Panels



Project Step:

 During each shift of CFRP installation, two test panels are fabricated

- Air temperature and humidity during CFRP test panel fabrication are recorded
- Lot numbers for carbon fiber fabric documented
- Once panels cure, they are sent off to 3rd party test facility for tensile tests per ASTM D3039

Key Project Step: Final Walkthrough



Project Step:

 After final cure is completed and scaffolding is removed, a final Quality walkthrough and FME check with all QA/QC personnel is performed

- Final walkthrough is signed off on by:
 - 3rd party Inspector
 - Structural QC Inspector
 - PSEG Engineering Team
 - PSEG System Owner