

1 Q. What cumulative effect does the refurbishment of the welds have on the heat affected zone and
2 what impact, if any, does this have on the probability of future failure?

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5 A. During weld refurbishment, the new weld largely replaces the existing heat-affected zone, while
6 a new heat-affected zone is then created adjacent to the new weld. There is no cumulative
7 impact to the heat-affected zone that alters the probability of future failures.