

3.7 LIMITING CONDITIONS FOR
OPERATION

3.7 STATION CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS

Applicability:

Applies to the operating status of the primary and secondary containment systems.

Objective:

To assure the integrity of the primary and secondary containment systems.

Specification:

A. Primary Containment

1. Whenever primary containment is required, the volume and temperature of the water in the suppression chamber shall be maintained within the following limits:
 - a. Maximum Water Temperature during normal operation - 90°F.
 - b. Maximum Water Temperature during any test operation which adds heat to the suppression pool - 100°F; however, it shall not remain above 90°F for more than 24 hours.
 - c. If Torus Water Temperature exceeds 110°F, initiate an immediate scram of the reactor. Power operation shall not be resumed until the pool temperature is reduced below 90°F.
 - d. During reactor isolation conditions, the reactor pressure vessel shall be depressurized to less than 200 psig

4.7 SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.7 STATION CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS

Applicability:

Applies to the primary and secondary containment system integrity.

Objective:

To verify the integrity of the primary and secondary containments.

Specification:

A. Primary Containment

1. Verify daily that the suppression chamber water level and average temperature are within applicable limits.

Verify suppression pool average temperature is within the applicable limits every 5 minutes when performing testing that adds heat to the suppression pool.

Whenever there is indication of relief valve operation with the temperature of the suppression pool reaching 160°F or more and the primary coolant system pressure greater than 200 psig, an external visual examination of the suppression chamber shall be conducted before resuming power operation.

4.7 STATION CONTAINMENT SYSTEMSA. Primary Containment System

The interiors of the drywell and suppression chamber are painted with an inorganic zinc primer to prevent rusting that could lead to degradation of the containment pressure boundary. The inspection of the painted surfaces as part of inservice inspection under 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2)(vi) assures that the paint and the underlying base metal have not degraded. Experience with this type of coating during plant operating cycles between 1972 and the present indicates that this inspection methodology and interval are adequate.

Because of the large volume and thermal capacity of the suppression pool, the level and temperature normally changes very slowly and monitoring these parameters daily is sufficient to establish any temperature trends.

The average temperature is determined by taking an arithmetic average of OPERABLE suppression pool water temperature channels. The daily frequency has been shown, based on operating experience, to be acceptable. The frequencies are further justified in view of other indications available in the Control Room, including alarms, to alert operators to an abnormal condition.

When heat is being added to the suppression pool by testing, however, it is necessary to monitor suppression pool temperature more frequently. The 5 minute frequency during testing is justified by the rate at which tests will heat up the suppression pool. This has been shown to be acceptable based on operating experience, and provides assurance that allowable pool temperatures are not exceeded.

The requirement for an external visual examination following any event where potentially high loadings could occur provides assurance that no significant damage was encountered. Particular attention should be focused on structural discontinuities in the vicinity of the relief valve discharge since these are expected to be the points of highest stress. Visual inspection of the suppression chamber including water line regions each refueling outage is adequate to detect any changes in the suppression chamber structures.