

May 2, 2000

Ed,

I have enclosed a markup of your proposed modifications to Sections 3.4.2 and 3.4.3 of the Draft Decommissioning risk assessment. I reworded the first section a little to read like the rest of the report (i.e., in a manner that makes it clear who "we" is). Section 3.4.3 seemed a little too detailed and I have provided a suggested rewrite. If you want, we can put the details in the appendix. Did you check with SPLB or EMEB on straight line wind references and our position on building capabilities? If we go with the details, we probably should have them take a look at it.

Glenn, NRP

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3.4.2 Aircraft Crashes

The staff We evaluated the likelihood of an aircraft crashing into a nuclear power plant site and seriously damaging the spent fuel pool or its support systems (details are in Appendix 2D). The generic data provided in DOE-STD-3014-96 [Ref. 6], were used to assess the likelihood of an aircraft crash into or near a decommissioning spent fuel pool. Aircraft damage can affect the structural integrity of the spent fuel pool or affect the availability of nearby support systems, such as power supplies, heat exchangers, or water makeup sources, and may also affect recovery actions. There are two approaches that can be taken to evaluate the likelihood of an aircraft crash into a structure. The first is called the point target model, which uses the area (length times width) of the target to determine the likelihood that an aircraft will strike the target. The aircraft itself does not have real dimensions when using this model. In the second approach, the DOE model modifies the point target approach to account for the wing span and the skidding of the aircraft after it hits the ground by including the additional area the aircraft could cover. Further, that model takes into account the plane's glide path by introducing the height of the structure into the equation, which effectively increase the area of the target (see Appendix 2D).

The staff Our estimate of the frequency of catastrophic PWR spent fuel pool damage (i.e., the pool is so damaged that it rapidly drains and cannot be refilled from either onsite or offsite resources) resulting from an aircraft crash is based on the point target area model for a direct hit on a 100 x 50 foot spent fuel pool. Based on studies in NUREG/CR-5042, "Evaluation of External Hazards to Nuclear Power Plants in the United States," it was estimated that 1-of-2 aircraft are large enough to penetrate a 6-ft of reinforced concrete wall. The conditional probability of a large aircraft crash resulting in penetration of a 6-ft of reinforced concrete wall was taken as 0.32 (from NUREG/CR-5042). It was further estimated that 1-of-2 crashes result in significant damage to the spent fuel pool resulting in uncovering of the stored fuel (for example, 50% of the time the location of the damage is above the height of the stored fuel). The estimated range of catastrophic damage to the spent fuel pool, resulting in uncovering of the spent fuel, is 9.6×10^{-12} to 4.3×10^{-8} per year. The mean value is estimated to be 2.9×10^{-9} per year. The frequency of catastrophic BWR spent fuel pool damage resulting from a direct hit by a large aircraft is estimated to be the same as that for the PWR. Mark-I and Mark-II secondary containments generally do not appear to have any significant structures that might reduce the likelihood of aircraft penetration, although a crash into one of four sides of a BWR secondary containment may have a reduced likelihood of penetration due to other structures being in the way of the aircraft. Mark-III secondary containments may reduce the likelihood of penetration somewhat, as the spent fuel pool may be considered to be protected on one side by additional structures. If instead of a direct hit, the aircraft skidded into the pool or a wing clipped the pool, catastrophic damage may not occur. We estimate that skidding aircraft will be negligible contributors to the frequency of fuel uncovering resulting from catastrophic failure of the pool as the impact velocity will likely be sufficiently reduced to preclude penetration of the wall. The estimated frequencies of aircraft induced catastrophic spent fuel pool failure are bounded by other initiators.

The staff Our estimate of the frequency of significant damage to spent fuel pool support systems (e.g., power supply, heat exchanger, or makeup water supply) was developed for three different situations. The first case is based on the DOE model including the glide path and the wing and skid area for a 400 x 200 x 30 foot structure (i.e., the support systems are located inside a large building) with a conditional probability of 0.01 that one of these systems is hit (the critical system occupies a 30 x 30 x 30 foot cube within the large building). This model accounts for

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damage from the aircraft including, for example, being clipped by a wing. The estimated frequency range for significant damage to the support systems is 1.0×10^{-10} to 1.0×10^{-6} per year. The mean value is estimated to be 7.0×10^{-8} per year. The second case estimates the value for the loss of a support system (power supply, heat exchanger or makeup water supply) based on the DOE model including the glide path and the wing and skid area for a 10 x 10 x 10 foot structure (i.e., the support systems are housed in a small building). The estimated frequency of support system damage ranges from 1.1×10^{-9} to 1.1×10^{-5} per year, with the mean estimated to be 7.3×10^{-7} per year. The third case uses the point model for this 10x10 structure, and the estimated value range is 2.4×10^{-12} to 1.1×10^{-8} per year, with the mean estimated to be 7.4×10^{-10} per year. Depending on the model approach (selection of the target structure size; use of the point target model or the DOE model), the mean value for an aircraft damaging a support system is in the 7×10^{-7} per year, or less, range. This is not the estimated frequency of fuel uncovering or a zirconium fire caused by damage to the support systems, since the frequency estimate does not include recovery, either onsite or offsite. As an initiator to failure of a support system leading to fuel uncovering and a zirconium fire, an aircraft crash is bounded by other more probable events. Recovery of the support system will reduce the likelihood of spent fuel uncovering.

Overall, the likelihood of significant spent fuel pool damage from aircraft crashes is bounded by other more likely catastrophic spent fuel pool failure and loss of cooling modes.

It was the stuff

~~The staff~~ 3.4.3 Tornadoes and High Winds

~~We performed a risk evaluation of tornado threats to spent fuel pools (details are in Appendix 2E). We assumed that very severe tornadoes (F4 to F5 tornadoes on the Fujita scale) would be required to cause catastrophic damage to a PWR or BWR spent fuel pool. These tornados have wind speed that result in damage characterized as devastating or incredible. We then looked at the frequency of such tornadoes occurring and the conditional probability that if such a tornado hit the site, it would seriously damage the spent fuel. To do this we examined the frequency and intensity of tornadoes in each of the continental United States using the methods described in NUREG/CR-2944 [Ref. 7]. The frequency of having an F4 to F5 tornado is estimated to be 5.6×10^{-7} per year for the central U.S., with a U.S. average value of 2.2×10^{-7} per year.~~

~~We then considered what level of damage an F4 or F5 tornado could do to a spent fuel pool. Based on the buildings housing the spent fuel pools and the thickness of the spent fuel pools themselves, the conditional probability of catastrophic failure given a tornado missile is very low. Hence, the overall frequency of catastrophic pool failure caused by a tornado is extremely low (i.e., the calculated frequency of such an event is less than 1×10^{-9} per year).~~

~~We assumed that an F2 to F5 tornado would be required if significant damage were to occur to spent fuel pool support systems (e.g., power supply, cooling pumps, heat exchanger, or makeup water supply). These tornados have wind speed that result in damage characterized as significant, severe, or worse. The frequency of having an F2 to F5 tornado is estimated to be 1.5×10^{-5} per year for the central U.S., with a U.S. average value of 6.1×10^{-6} per year. This is not the estimated frequency of fuel uncovering or a zirconium fire caused by damage to the support systems, since the frequency estimate does not include recovery, either onsite or offsite. As an initiator to failure of a support system leading to fuel uncovering and a zirconium fire, a tornado is bounded by other more probable events. Recovery of the support system will reduce the likelihood of spent fuel uncovering.~~

Missiles generated by high winds (for example, straight winds or hurricanes) are not as powerful as those that are generated by tornados. Therefore high winds are estimated to have a negligible impact on the catastrophic failure of the spent fuel pool resulting in fuel uncovering. Buildings and structures for sites where high winds are anticipated are expected to be designed and built to comply with the guidelines in SRP 2.3.1, "Regional Climatology," and ANSI A58.1, "Building Code Requirements for Minimum Design Loads in Buildings and Other Structures," American National Standards Institute (1972), or American Society of Civil Engineers ASCE 7-95 guidelines, "Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures," 1995, or other local building codes which embody similar requirements. The ASCE 7-95 wind design criteria is based on an exceedance probability of 2.0×10^{-2} per year and the wind-force resisting system of structures should not collapse under design loads. Wind or water damage may occur within the structure as a result of a breach. Based on DOE-STD-1020-94, "Natural Phenomena Hazards Design and Evaluation Criteria for Department of Energy Facilities," January 1996, there are no missile criteria associated with this exceedance probability. For wind speeds with exceedance probabilities of less than 1.0×10^{-3} per year, the design missile is a 2x4-in timber plank weighing 15-lb with a horizontal velocity of 50 mph with a maximum height of 30-ft. Without specific design details it is not possible to determine the probability of high winds resulting in the loss of a spent fuel pool support systems (e.g., power supply, cooling pumps, heat exchanger, or makeup water supply). It appears that a reasonable, conservative value would be on the order

of 1.0×10^{-3} per year. This is not the estimated frequency of fuel uncover or a zirconium fire caused by damage to the support systems, since the frequency estimate does not include recovery, either onsite or offsite. As an initiator to failure of a support system leading to fuel uncover and a zirconium fire, high winds are bounded by other more probable events. Recovery of the support system will reduce the likelihood of spent fuel uncover.

The staff assumed that straight line winds having a sufficiently high ~~wind speed~~ to generate missiles that could damage spent fuel pool support systems occur on the order of 1×10^{-3} per year or less. fail steel siding buildings occur with a frequency of 1×10^{-3} per year or less. ^{The staff assumes} This estimate ^(ASCE) is based on American Society of Civil Engineers and American National Standards Institute (ANSI) guidelines for buildings

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The staff estimated the frequency of significant damage to spent fuel pool support systems from straight line winds to be very low. Damage was assumed to be caused by building collapse. Based on the construction requirements for secondary containments, the staff believes that the buildings containing BWR spent fuel pools are sufficiently robust that straight line winds will not challenge the integrity of the building. The staff assumes buildings covering PWR spent fuel pools have a concrete foundation that extends part way up the side of the building. The exterior of the rest of the building has a steel frame covered by corrugated steel siding. The PWR spent fuel buildings are assumed to be constructed to American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) standards. Based on these assumptions, the staff believes that straight line winds will fail buildings housing PWR spent fuel pools at a frequency of 1×10^{-3} per year or less. This failure rate for support systems is subsumed in the initiating event frequency for loss of offsite power from severe weather events. The event tree for this initiator takes into account the time available for recovery of spent fuel pool cooling (approximately 130 hours for 1-year old fuel).