

4.0 DESIGN FEATURES

4.1 Site

The 4,738 acre site is characterized by a 4,400 foot minimum exclusion radius centered on the Reactor Building; isolation from nearby population centers; sound foundation for structures; an abundant supply of cooling water; an ample supply of emergency power; and favorable conditions of hydrology, geology, seismology, and meteorology.

4.2 Reactor Core

4.2.1 Fuel Assemblies

The reactor shall contain 177 fuel assemblies. Each assembly shall consist of a matrix of Zircaloy-4 or M5 fuel rods with an initial composition of natural or slightly enriched uranium dioxide (UO_2) as fuel material. Limited substitutions of zirconium alloy or stainless steel filler rods for fuel rods, in accordance with approved applications of fuel rod configurations, may be used. Fuel assemblies shall be limited to those fuel designs that have been analyzed with applicable NRC staff approved codes and methods and shown by tests or analyses to comply with all fuel safety design bases.

4.2.2 Control Rods

The reactor core shall contain 60 safety and regulating CONTROL ROD assemblies and 8 AXIAL POWER SHAPING ROD (APSR) assemblies. The material shall be silver indium cadmium or Inconel as approved by the NRC.

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