

June 7, 2007

Mr. James A. Gresham, Manager  
Regulatory Compliance and Plant Licensing  
Westinghouse Electric Company  
P.O. Box 355  
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

SUBJECT: DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION FOR WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY  
(WESTINGHOUSE) TOPICAL REPORT (TR) CENPD-132  
SUPPLEMENT 4-P-A, ADDENDUM 1-P, "CALCULATIVE METHODS FOR THE  
CE NUCLEAR POWER LARGE BREAK LOCA EVALUATION MODEL -  
IMPROVEMENT TO 1999 LARGE BREAK LOCA EM STEAM COOLING  
MODEL FOR LESS THAN 1 IN/SEC CORE REFLOOD" (TAC NO. MD2161)

Dear Mr. Gresham:

By letter dated May 11, 2006, Westinghouse submitted CENPD-132, Supplement 4-P-A, Addendum 1-P, Calculative Methods for the CE Nuclear Power Large Break LOCA Evaluation Model - Improvement to 1999 Large Break LOCA EM Steam Cooling Model for Less Than 1 in/sec Core Reflood," to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff for review. Enclosed for Westinghouse review and comment is a copy of the NRC staff's draft safety evaluation (SE) for the TR.

Pursuant to Section 2.390 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), we have determined that the enclosed draft SE does not contain proprietary information. However, we will delay placing the draft SE in the public document room for a period of 10 working days from the date of this letter to provide you with the opportunity to comment on the proprietary aspects. If you believe that any information in the enclosure is proprietary, please identify such information line-by-line and define the basis pursuant to the criteria of 10 CFR 2.390. After 10 working days, the draft SE will be made publicly available, and an additional 10 working days are provided to you to comment on any factual errors or clarity concerns contained in the draft SE. The final SE will be issued after making any necessary changes and will be made publicly available. The NRC staff's disposition of your comments on the draft SE will be discussed in the final SE.

J. Gresham

To facilitate the NRC staff's review of your comments, please provide a marked-up copy of the draft SE showing proposed changes and provide a summary table of the proposed changes.

If you have any questions, please contact Jon H. Thompson at 301-415-1119.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Stacey L. Rosenberg, Chief  
Special Projects Branch  
Division of Policy and Rulemaking  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 700

Enclosure: Draft SE

cc w/encl:  
Mr. Gordon Bischoff, Manager  
Owners Group Program Management Office  
Westinghouse Electric Company  
P.O. Box 355  
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

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-2-

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**ADAMS ACCESSION NO.: ML071350187\*No major changes to SE input. NRR-043**

OFFICE	PSPB/PM	PSPB/PM	PSPB/LA	Tech Branch*	PSPB/BC
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DATE	5-30-07	6-4-07	5/30/07	4/17/07	6/7/07

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DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

TOPICAL REPORT (TR) CENPD-132, SUPPLEMENT 4-P-A, ADDENDUM 1-P

“CALCULATIVE METHODS FOR THE CE [COMBUSTION ENGINEERING]

NUCLEAR POWER LARGE BREAK LOCA [LOSS-OF-COOLANT-ACCIDENT]

EVALUATION MODEL [EM] - IMPROVEMENT TO 1999 LARGE BREAK LOCA [LBLOCA]

EM STEAM COOLING MODEL FOR LESS THAN 1 IN/SEC CORE REFLOOD”

WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY

PROJECT NO. 700

1 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

2  
3 The Westinghouse Electric Company (Westinghouse) submitted a TR revision, by letter  
4 LTR-NRC-06-25, dated May 11, 2006, (Reference 1) titled Submittal of CENPD-132  
5 Supplement 4-P-A, Addendum 1-P, "Calculative Methods for the CE Nuclear Power Large  
6 Break LOCA Evaluation Model Improvement to 1999 Large Break LOCA EM Steam Cooling  
7 Model for Less Than 1 in/sec Core Reflood," and CENPD-132 Supplement 4-NP-A, Addendum  
8 1-NP "Calculative Methods for the CE Nuclear Power Large Break LOCA Evaluation Model  
9 Improvement to 1999 Large Break LOCA EM Steam Cooling Model for Less Than 1 in/sec Core  
10 Reflood" (Proprietary/Non-Proprietary).

11  
12 This revision documented both a proposed and an optional change to the Westinghouse 1999  
13 LBLOCA EM for CE-designed plants. The change would remove some of the conservatism in  
14 the approved steam cooling heat transfer component model found in Title 10 of the Code of  
15 Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 50, Appendix K, by including spacer grid heat transfer  
16 effects for reflood rates less than 1 in/sec. This change was proposed because of the  
17 calculated adverse consequences to the emergency core cooling system (ECCS) performance  
18 using the 1999 EM for the CE 16x16 Next Generation Fuel (NGF) fuel design. The ECCS  
19 calculations were adversely impacted by the increase in the core hydraulic pressure loss, the  
20 increase in the core cross-sectional flow area, and the decrease in the fuel rod cladding outside  
21 diameter. In particular, the core reflood calculations during a LBLOCA were adversely  
22 impacted by the CE 16x16 NGF design changes and the core reflood rates that were used to  
23 calculate the reflood heat transfer coefficients for the hot rod decreased. The CE 16x16 NGF  
24 design changes were estimated by Westinghouse to have an insignificant impact on the ECCS  
25 performance peak cladding temperature. However, the impact on the ECCS performance  
26 maximum cladding local oxidation percentage for the hot rod rupture node was estimated by  
27 Westinghouse to be large enough to warrant specific consideration.  
28

1 Westinghouse provided additional information, in response to the NRC staff's request for  
2 additional information (RAI), to supplement and clarify portions of the submittal by letter LTR-  
3 NRC-07-2, dated January 10, 2007, (Reference 2) letter LTR-NRC-07-7, dated February 1,  
4 2007, (Reference 3) and by letter LTR-NRC-07-18 dated March 28, 2007 (Reference 4).  
5

## 6 2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

7

8 The ECCS is designed to provide protection against postulated LOCAs caused by ruptures in  
9 the primary system piping. The functional requirements for the ECCS performance, under all  
10 LOCA conditions postulated in the design, must satisfy 10 CFR 50.46, "Acceptance criteria for  
11 emergency core cooling systems for light-water nuclear power reactors." The ECCS calculated  
12 cooling performance is based on an acceptable EM for which there is sufficient supporting  
13 justification to show that the analytical technique realistically describes the behavior of the  
14 reactor coolant system during a LOCA or, in this case, an ECCS EM developed in conformance  
15 with Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50.  
16

17 The three specific ECCS performance criteria important to this safety evaluation are:

- 18 1. The calculated maximum fuel element cladding temperature does not exceed 2200 °F.
- 19 2. The calculated total local oxidation of the cladding does not exceed 17 percent of the  
20 total cladding thickness before oxidation. Total local oxidation includes pre-accident  
21 oxidation as well as oxidation that occurs during the course of the accident.
- 22 3. The calculated total amount of hydrogen generated from the chemical reaction of the  
23 cladding with water or steam does not exceed 1 percent of the hypothetical amount that  
24 would be generated if all of the metal in the cladding cylinders surrounding the fuel,  
25 excluding the cladding surrounding the plenum volume, were to react.  
26  
27  
28  
29

30 The impact of the CE 16x16 NGF design changes on the ECCS performance maximum  
31 cladding local oxidation percentage for the hot rod rupture node was estimated to be large  
32 enough to warrant specific consideration for item 2, above.  
33

34 The following additional requirements were considered for an Appendix K based model:

- 35 1. 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix K.D.5.b states "during refill and during reflood when reflood  
36 rates are less than one inch per second, heat transfer calculations shall be based on the  
37 assumption that cooling is only by steam, and shall take into account any flow blockage  
38 calculated to occur as a result of cladding swelling or rupture as such blockage might  
39 affect both local steam flow and heat transfer."  
40
- 41 2. 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix K.C.4.e states "after CHF [Critical Heat Flux] is first predicted  
42 at an axial fuel rod location during blowdown, the calculation shall not use nucleate  
43 boiling heat transfer correlations at that location subsequently during the blowdown even  
44 if the calculated local fluid and surface conditions would apparently justify the  
45 reestablishment of nucleate boiling. Heat transfer assumptions characteristic of return  
46 to nucleate boiling (rewetting) shall be permitted when justified by the calculated local  
47 fluid and surface conditions during the reflood portion of a LOCA."  
48  
49

1 3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

2  
3 3.1 1999 EM Steam Cooling Model for Core Reflood Rate Less Than 1 in/sec.

- 4  
5 • The 1999 EM steam cooling model is a component of the Appendix K ECCS  
6 calculational method, and is applied to the hot rod rupture node elevation and  
7 above when the core reflood rate is less than 1 in/sec. The 1999 EM  
8 NRC-accepted steam cooling model is documented in:  
9
- 10 • CENPD-132P, Supplement 1, "Calculational Methods for the C-E Large  
11 Break LOCA Evaluation Model," February 1975, Section S III.D.6.b, "Heat  
12 Transfer Coefficients for Reflood Rates Less Than 1.0 in./sec,"
  - 13
  - 14 • CENPD-132P, Supplement 2, "Calculational Methods for the C-E Large  
15 Break LOCA Evaluation Model," July 1975, Section S III.D.6.a,  
16 "Application of FLECHT Data to 16x16 Fuel Bundles,"
  - 17
  - 18 • Combustion Engineering letter LD-81-095, December 1981, Enclosure  
19 1-P-A, "C-E ECCS Evaluation Model, Flow Blockage Analysis," and
  - 20
  - 21 • CENPD-132, Supplement 4-P-A, "Calculative Methods for the CE Nuclear  
22 Power Large Break LOCA Evaluation Model," March 2001, Section 2.7,  
23 "STRIKIN-II Hot Rod Steam Cooling Heat Transfer."  
24

25 A number of computer programs are used to evaluate the hot fuel rod response to a LOCA.  
26 The COMPERC-II (Reference 5) computer program is used for reflood thermal-hydraulic  
27 calculations and the output provides boundary conditions for use in the PARCH (Reference 6)  
28 computer program. PARCH calculates the steam cooling heat transfer coefficients through the  
29 rupture node blockage and above, including the effect of steam superheating. The PARCH hot  
30 rod-to-coolant energy balance for calculating the steam temperature includes heat from  
31 cladding oxidation and decay heat. The HCROSS (Reference 7) computer program calculates  
32 single phase steam flow diversion from the hot rod rupture node blocked subchannel to the  
33 unblocked adjacent subchannels, including flow recovery above the blockage. The STRIKIN-II  
34 (Reference 8) computer program calculates the rod-to-rod radiation heat transfer for the hot rod  
35 enclosure, which is also used by PARCH to calculate hot rod cladding temperatures needed for  
36 the steam cooling analysis. The heat transfer coefficient is limited to the FLECHT  
37 (Reference 9) correlation upper bound as specified in the original NRC staff approval of the CE  
38 Large Break LOCA evaluation methodology.  
39

40 A detailed description of the 1999 EM method and computer programs used for a licensing  
41 analysis was provided by Westinghouse in Reference 3 as response to the NRC staff's RAI.  
42 Justification for the implementation of the optional steam cooling model within the context of the  
43 1999 EM was also included in the response to the NRC staff's RAI.  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49

1  
2 3.2 CE 16x16 NGF Design  
3

4 The CE 16x16 NGF design is described in TR WCAP-16500-P, "CE 16x16 Next Generation  
5 Fuel Core Reference Report," February 2006, (Reference 10) and is the subject of a separate  
6 review (TAC No. MD0560). The CE 16x16 NGF design changes include mid-grids and  
7 intermediate flow mixing (IFM) grids in the fuel assemblies.  
8

9 Spacer grids are structural members of the fuel assembly which support the fuel rods at a  
10 prescribed rod-to-rod pitch. With the exception of CE 16x16 NGF IFM grids in transition cores,  
11 all fuel assemblies have spacer grids at the same elevations across the core. Because the  
12 grids are at the same elevations, no flow bypass or flow redistribution occurs. The grid reduces  
13 the fuel assembly flow area and the flow is first contracted and accelerated, and then the flow is  
14 expanded downstream of each grid layer in the core. As the flow is accelerated within the grid  
15 length and then expands downstream, it reestablishes the thermal boundary layer on the fuel  
16 rod. This results in an increase in the local heat transfer within, and downstream of, the grid.  
17 When the flow is a two-phase dispersed droplet flow, characteristic of Pressurized Water  
18 Reactor (PWR) blowdown or reflood, the grid promotes additional heat transfer through droplet  
19 breakup, interfacial heat transfer, and dispersed flow convective heat transfer. Because the  
20 spacer grid blocks a portion of the fuel assembly flow area, the velocity of the vapor passing  
21 through the grid is higher than the velocities in nearby fuel bundles. As a result, the vapor-film  
22 relative velocity at the grid is larger, so that a wetted grid below the rupture node elevation has  
23 a higher interfacial heat transfer coefficient compared to nearby droplets.  
24

25 Spacer grids have an important effect on several key phenomena during the reflood period,  
26 including droplet breakup, interfacial heat transfer, and dispersed-flow convective heat transfer.  
27 For the 1999 EM, these aspects of the reflood heat transfer were considered through the use of  
28 the empirically based FLECHT correlation required by 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix K. The  
29 FLECHT correlation did not explicitly consider spacer grids, and was based on test  
30 measurements taken at mid-span locations, which were away from the direct effects of spacer  
31 grids. The FLECHT correlation included the effects of spacer grids, even though the egg-crate  
32 grids used in those tests were not like the spacer grids in the CE 16x16 NGF assembly design.  
33

34 The 1999 EM does not have an accepted spacer grid heat transfer model available for use in  
35 licensing calculations. The 1999 EM ECCS calculations for the CE 16x16 NGF assembly  
36 design were adversely impacted by the increase in the core hydraulic pressure loss, the  
37 increase in the core cross-sectional flow area, and the decrease in the fuel rod cladding outside  
38 diameter. The core reflood rates used to calculate the reflood heat transfer coefficients for the  
39 hot rod decreased as a result of the grid design.  
40

41 3.3 Optional 1999 EM Steam Cooling Enhancement for Reflood Rates Less Than 1 in/sec  
42

43 The 1999 EM assumes that the grids are not powered and have a large surface area-to-volume  
44 ratio and will quench before the fuel rods. When the grids quench, an additional liquid surface  
45 area is created, which helps core cooling conditions by adding additional steam to the vapor  
46 flow stream from the evaporation of the liquid film from the grid surface as a result of thermal  
47 radiation from the hotter fuel rod (after grid quench occurs). An optional approach for improving  
48 the steam cooling heat transfer model was proposed by Westinghouse to utilize the beneficial

1 aspects, as described in Section 3.2 above, of the CE 16x16 NGF spacer grids (both mid-grid  
2 and IFM grids) that were not included in the current model. The model was patterned on an  
3 NRC-approved approach used by Westinghouse for Westinghouse plants as documented in  
4 TR WCAP- 10484-P-A, "Spacer Grid Heat Transfer Effects During Reflood," dated March 1991,  
5 (Reference 11) and in TR WCAP-12945-P-A, Volume 1 (Revision 2) and Volumes 2 through 5  
6 (Revision 1), "Code Qualification Document for Best Estimate LOCA [BELOCA] Analysis,"  
7 dated March 1998 (Reference 12). The limitations and restrictions on the use of this  
8 Westinghouse plant model were also applied to the CE plant optional steam cooling model.  
9

10 The 1999 EM optional steam cooling model for core reflood rates less than 1 in/sec includes the  
11 following features and methodology constraints:  
12

13 The optional steam cooling model considers only the spacer grids above the core  
14 two-phase level (both mid-grid and IFM grids).  
15

16 Below the rupture node and above the core two-phase level, the steam flow rate is  
17 non-mechanistically augmented based on the Westinghouse BELOCA spacer grid heat  
18 transfer enhancement model.  
19

20 PARCH steam cooling heat transfer coefficients on the rupture node and above are  
21 non-mechanistically augmented based on the Westinghouse BELOCA spacer grid heat  
22 transfer enhancement model.  
23

24 The FLECHT upper-bound heat transfer coefficient, as required by the current NRC  
25 licensing constraint, is also applied to the spacer grid model improvement. That is, the  
26 result of the grid model enhancement cannot result in the use of a heat transfer  
27 coefficient greater than FLECHT.  
28

29 Unlike the Westinghouse plant model, the CE plant model is not mechanistic and is performed  
30 as a separate calculation within the PARCH computer program. The important characteristics  
31 of the optional model, along with the physical characteristics of the grids, are the grid rewet  
32 temperature and the heat transfer coefficient, used to determine the amount of steam  
33 evaporated from the grid surface. The grid rewet temperature establishes the time at which the  
34 steam is added to the vapor flow stream and enhances the rod cooling. The heat transfer  
35 coefficient defines the amount of steam generated from the grid surface as a result of thermal  
36 radiation from the hotter fuel rod (after grid quench occurs).  
37

38 The physical characteristics of the optional spacer grid heat transfer enhancement model  
39 include the maximum flow area reduction or spacer grid blockage fraction, the fuel lattice  
40 hydraulic diameter, the height of the spacer grid (used to estimate wetted surface area), and  
41 the elevation of the top edge of each spacer grid (relative to the bottom of the core). These  
42 parameters are unique to a specific grid type.  
43

#### 44 3.3.1 Spacer Grid Rewet Temperature 45

46 The spacer grid rewet temperature determines when the grid surface will quench and develop a  
47 liquid film that can be evaporated by radiation heat transfer from the hotter, unquenched fuel  
48 rod. The optional steam cooling model is based on a fixed, predetermined rewet temperature.

1 Because the rewet temperature is not a physical property, but a simplification of a complicated  
2 process, many factors which could be taken into account are not considered in this  
3 non-mechanistic approach, and rewet is only characterized as a function of void fraction and  
4 surface temperature. However, this approach is consistent with the previously accepted  
5 Westinghouse BELOCA model.

6  
7 Westinghouse had originally proposed the use of a rewet temperature higher than the value  
8 accepted by the NRC staff for the Westinghouse BELOCA model. The temperature was based  
9 on two reflood tests and the value selected was between the observed rewet temperatures. In  
10 response to the NRC staff's concern with the proposed value, Westinghouse committed to  
11 using the previously accepted value for licencing analyses with the optional steam cooling  
12 model (Reference 4, Clarification Question 2a). The previously accepted rewet temperature is  
13 lower than the values observed from the reflood tests examined by Westinghouse and is,  
14 therefore, conservative. The NRC staff finds the rewet temperature acceptable for an EM  
15 based on 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix K.C.4.e.

16  
17 The void fraction is not calculated in the approved 1999 EM. The void fraction in the two-phase  
18 region is specified as input for a licensing analysis (Ref. 1, response to RAI 4 and 5). This  
19 value is consistent with the void fraction range that supports the selected rewet temperature  
20 and is also consistent with the rewet temperature for the grid spacer in the Westinghouse  
21 BELOCA model.

22  
23 The optional steam cooling model does not calculate the grid surface liquid film characteristics.  
24 The approved 1999 EM requires a fixed entrainment rate of liquid exiting the core mixture level  
25 per unit of steam exiting the core mixture level (Reference 2, response to RAI 4 and 5). This  
26 rate supports the non-mechanistic steam cooling model which assumes that there is always a  
27 liquid film on the grid when the grid temperature is below the rewet temperature. This liquid is  
28 then evaporated from the grid surface based on the temperature difference between the  
29 quenched grid spacer and the unquenched fuel rod. The model does check to assure that the  
30 total evaporated mass from all sources, including the grid, does not exceed the entrained liquid  
31 mass exiting the core mixture.

32  
33 While the specified void fraction required for licensing evaluations provides reasonable  
34 assurance that the selected grid rewet temperature is appropriate for the CE 16x16 NGF  
35 design, its acceptability for other designs should be addressed by a licensee as part of its  
36 determination that the optional steam cooling model is appropriate for the specific application.  
37 This justification should address the sensitivity of the expected void fraction to the grid rewet  
38 temperature, because a lower void fraction could result in a lower grid rewet temperature, by  
39 about 200 °F. The justification should consider the sensitivity of rewet temperature to other  
40 properties not considered in this optional model and the sensitivity of the rewet temperature to  
41 the total additional steam cooling this optional model provides.

### 42 43 3.3.2 Spacer Grid Heat Transfer Coefficient

44  
45 The amount of steam generated from the quenched grid surface depends on the temperature  
46 difference between the unquenched fuel rod and the grid surface, through the use of a thermal  
47 radiation heat transfer model. The vapor generated by evaporation of the liquid from the grid  
48 surface is modeled by a convective heat transfer coefficient.

1  
2 The convective heat transfer coefficient from the spacer grid to the liquid film on the grid is  
3 represented by the Condie-Bengston IV correlation (Reference 13). Westinghouse chose this  
4 correlation to be consistent with the approved 1999 EM film boiling model in the CEFLASH-4A  
5 and STRIKIN-II computer programs.  
6

7 This choice for the heat transfer correlation was addressed by Westinghouse in Reference 2 in  
8 response to the NRC staff's RAI. The heat transfer coefficient from the grid spacer to the liquid  
9 film, as described in the spacer grid heat transfer methods and mechanisms, documented in TR  
10 WCAP-10484-P-A, should be representative of the expected heat transfer coefficient following  
11 a return to nucleate boiling on the spacer grid. This would be one to two orders of magnitude  
12 greater than the values calculated with Condie-Bengston IV, including the heat transfer  
13 multiplier based on the Westinghouse BELOCA model, TR WCAP-12945-P-A. The use of  
14 Condie-Bengston IV is therefore conservative. The NRC staff finds the use of Condie-  
15 Bengston IV acceptable for an EM designed for compliance with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix  
16 K.C.4.e.  
17

18 The conservatism in the Condie-Bengston IV correlation for the heat transfer offsets some of  
19 the Appendix K features of the 1999 EM. For example, the fuel rod temperature is based on  
20 the decay heat of +20 percent (10 CFR Part 50, Appendix K, I.A.4) which would result in a  
21 higher fuel rod surface temperature. The radiative energy from the fuel rods, which is used to  
22 evaporate the water from the grid, is not considered in the energy balance on the rod itself  
23 because of the non-mechanistic implementation of the steam cooling model. The fuel rod is not  
24 cooled by the expected heat transfer to the grid spacer and the steam generation mechanism is  
25 not reduced, as might be expected, until the grid spacer is submerged, as a result of the ECCS  
26 reflooding the core, and steam generation on the grid is turned off. Overall, the fuel rod surface  
27 temperature is higher than expected and the amount of steam generated is overestimated.  
28

29 The use of some of the 1999 EM Appendix K model features and the non-mechanistic  
30 implementation of the steam cooling model, while potentially overestimating the steam  
31 generation, is offset by the use of the Condie-Bengston IV correlation. However, the model's  
32 acceptability for other designs should be addressed by a licensee as part of its determination  
33 that the optional steam cooling model is appropriate for the specific application. This  
34 justification should consider the amount of additional steam being generated and the effect of  
35 the additional cooling for both the peak cladding temperature and the local oxidation, as  
36 appropriate. The non-mechanistic implementation of the steam cooling model may lead to  
37 more steam generation than would be reasonable and may lead to non-conservative values of  
38 steam cooling under certain conditions.  
39

### 40 3.3.3 Grid Spacer Geometry and Flow Blockage

41  
42 Westinghouse has examined the range of flow blockages for which the model has been used in  
43 Westinghouse-designed plants. Based on that review, the optional steam cooling model will  
44 only be used for cases covered by flow blockage limits which have shown that the model  
45 behaves as expected, as explained in Reference 4, Clarification Question 1.  
46

47 Similarly, the optional steam cooling model will only be used for cases covered by the Reynolds  
48 number limits which have shown that the model behaves as expected, as explained in

1 Reference 4, Clarification Question 1. As used in this context, the Reynolds number relates to  
2 the coolant channel hydraulic diameter.

3  
4 The surface area of the grid was approximated as a square lattice with the same pitch. This  
5 approximation was found to be appropriate and acceptable for the CE 16x16 NGF design. This  
6 approximation should be justified for other grid designs as the assumption may be inappropriate  
7 for other designs.

### 8 9 3.3.4 Sample Analyses

10 Westinghouse has performed analyses for the CE 16x16 NGF design with and without the  
11 optional steam cooling model in order to demonstrate the anticipated impact of the proposed  
12 change on the ECCS performance criteria. The effects of flow blockage were also evaluated.  
13 These studies showed no significant impact on the peak cladding temperature. The reduction  
14 in the local oxidation was shown to be small, consistent with the expected 0.5 percent to  
15 1 percent reduction expected by Westinghouse.

## 16 17 18 4.0 LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS

### 19 20 1. Condition for the Spacer Grid Rewet Temperature

21 While the specified void fraction required for licensing evaluations provides reasonable  
22 assurance that the selected grid rewet temperature is appropriate for the CE 16x16 NGF  
23 design, its acceptability for other designs should be addressed by a licensee as part of its  
24 determination that the optional steam cooling model is appropriate for the specific application.  
25 This justification should address the sensitivity of the expected void fraction to the grid rewet  
26 temperature, because a lower void fraction could result in a lower grid rewet temperature, by  
27 about 200 °F. The justification should consider the sensitivity of rewet temperature to other  
28 properties not considered in this optional model and the sensitivity of the rewet temperature to  
29 the total additional steam cooling this optional model provides.

### 30 31 32 2. Condition for the Spacer Grid Heat Transfer Coefficient

33 The use of some of the 1999 EM Appendix K model features and the non-mechanistic  
34 implementation of the steam cooling model, while potentially overestimating the steam  
35 generation, is offset by the use of the Condie-Bengston IV correlation. However, the model's  
36 acceptability for other designs should be addressed by a licensee as part of its determination  
37 that the optional steam cooling model is appropriate for the specific application. This  
38 justification should consider the amount of additional steam being generated and the effect of  
39 the additional cooling for both the peak cladding temperature and the local oxidation, as  
40 appropriate. The non-mechanistic implementation of the steam cooling model may lead to  
41 more steam generation than would be reasonable and may lead to non-conservative values of  
42 steam cooling under certain conditions.  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49

1 3. Limitation on the Optional Steam Cooling Heat Transfer Model

2 The result of the grid model enhancement cannot result in the use of a heat transfer coefficient  
3 greater than FLECHT. The FLECHT upper-bound heat transfer coefficient, as required by the  
4 current NRC licensing constraint, is also applied to the spacer grid optional steam cooling  
5 model improvement.

6  
7 4. Use of the Optional Steam Cooling Model

8  
9 If a licensee wants to use the optional steam cooling model, then a license amendment request  
10 should be submitted including the analyses performed to determine its applicability to the  
11 specific fuel design being evaluated, as discussed in Section 3.3.1, 3.3.2, and 3.3.3 above. In  
12 addition, the licensee should provide the results of the evaluation with and without the optional  
13 steam cooling model, in a format similar to the graphical results provided in the reference  
14 calculations presented in the supplemental TR. The peak cladding temperature, local oxidation,  
15 and steam cooling flow rates should be included in the submittal. These comparisons will  
16 enable the NRC staff to confirm the acceptability of the use of the optional steam cooling  
17 model.

18  
19 5. Use of Flow Blockage and Reynolds Number Limits (Section 3.3.3)

20  
21 For use of this topical report at a specific plant, the flow blockage and Reynolds number limits,  
22 as discussed in Section 3.3.3 above, should be confirmed by plant-specific analyses.

23  
24 5.0 CONCLUSION

25  
26 For CE-designed PWRs, the NRC staff finds acceptable Westinghouse's proposal to implement  
27 an optional steam cooling model for reflood rates less than 1 in/sec, which is applied to the hot  
28 rod rupture node elevation and above, into the currently approved 1999 EM. The proposed  
29 rewet temperature and heat transfer correlation used in the model were shown to be  
30 conservative and are acceptable.

31  
32 Based on reference calculations performed by Westinghouse during this review, and subject to  
33 limitations and conditions 3, 4, and 5, identified in Section 4, the NRC staff finds the use of the  
34 optional steam cooling model appropriate for the CE 16x16 NGF design and acceptable for  
35 licensing evaluations.

36  
37 Based on reference calculations performed by Westinghouse during this review, and subject to  
38 all the limitations and conditions identified in Section 4, the NRC staff finds the use of the  
39 optional steam cooling model appropriate for other CE fuel designs and acceptable for licensing  
40 evaluations for CE-designed PWRs.

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