

# **MULTI-AGENCY FEDERAL WORKSHOP Probabilistic Flood Hazard Assessment**

**January 29-31, 2013  
NRC, Rockville, MD**

## **Combined Events in External Flooding Evaluation for Nuclear Power Plants**

**Kit Ng  
Bechtel Power Corporation**



# **Combined Events in External Flooding Evaluation for Nuclear Power Plants**

- **Combined Events as part of Design Basis Flood Determination**
- **New Plants – Early Site Permit/Combined Operating License**
- **Operating Plants Flood Reevaluation – Fukushima Response**
- **Deterministic Approach**
- **Regulatory and Industry Guidance**
- **Combined Events Criteria**
- **Considerations for Probabilistic/Risk-Informed Approach**

# Combined Events in External Flooding Evaluation for Nuclear Plants

- **ANSI/ANS 2.8-1992 “Determining Design Basis Flooding at Power Reactor Sites”**
- **NUREG/CR-7046 “Design-Basis Flood Estimation for Site Characterization at Nuclear Power Plants in the United States of America”**
- **IAEA Safety Standard SSG-18 “Meteorological and Hydrological Hazards in Site Evaluation for Nuclear Installations”**

# Combined Events in External Flooding Evaluation for Nuclear Plants

## ANSI/ANS 2.8-1992

- No single flood-causing event is adequate as a design flood base for power reactors.
- Dependency - In any combination of flood-causing events, distinction between dependent and independent events is not sharp.
- Time sequential meteorological events, for example, are only partially and not invariably dependent and their magnitudes are only partially and not invariably dependent also. Seismic and meteorological events are independent. [Combined events can be independent, dependent or causal]
- Acceptable Probability – less than  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  is an acceptable goal

# Combined Events in External Flooding Evaluation for Nuclear Plants

## NUREG/CR-7046

- Because of their extreme nature, probable maximum events from two separate phenomena should not be combined unless they are clearly dependent or result from a common cause.
- For example, seismic events should not be combined with precipitation events.
- Exception: PMF and PMH for relatively small drainage basins in regions where the PMP may result from a hypothetical and maximized hurricane event.
- Wind waves effects are almost always combined with other flood-causing mechanisms.

# Combined Events in External Flooding

## Screening of Flooding Mechanisms

Flooding Mechanism	Site Location			
	Coastal + Riverine	Coastal	Riverine	Others
Local Intense Precipitation	X	X	X	X
River and Stream Flooding	X	NA	X	NA
Dam Failure	X (upstream dams)	NA	X (upstream dams)	NA
Storm Surge	X	X	NA	NA
Seiche	X	X	X (onsite pond)	X (onsite pond)
Tsunami	X	X	X (landslide potential)	NA
Ice	C	C	C	C
Wind Wave Actions	X	X	X	X

NA = Not Applicable; C=Cold Region

# Combined Events Criteria Applicable to Open Coast/Riverine Sites

- Precipitation Flooding

Event Combination	Alternative I	Alternative II	Alternative III
Primary Event	PMP	Probable Maximum Snowpack	Snow Season PMP
Antecedent or Subsequent Event	Lesser of 40% PMP or 500-year Rain		
Coincidental Event		100-year Snow Season Rain	100-year Snowpack
Base Flow	Mean Monthly	Mean Monthly	Mean Monthly
Wind Wave*	2-year wind	2-year wind	2-year wind

\* In critical direction

# Combined Events Criteria Applicable to Open Coast/Riverine Sites

- Storm Surge Flooding

Event Combination	Alternative I	Alternative II	Alternative III	Alternative IV*
Primary Event	Surge & Seiche from worst regional hurricane or windstorm	25-year Surge and Seiche	Probable Maximum Surge and Seiche	Surge from PMH
Coincidental Event	Lesser of 1/2 PMF or 500-year flood	PMF	25-year Flood	PMF
Antecedent Sea Level**	10% high tide	10% high tide	10% high tide	10% high tide
Wind Wave	Attendant	Attendant	Attendant	Attendant

\* in hurricane area and Drainage Area <300 mi<sup>2</sup>

\*\* include sea level rise



# Combined Events Criteria Applicable to Open Coast/Riverine Sites

- **Seismic Dam Failure Flooding**

<b>Event Combination</b>	<b>Alternative I</b>	<b>Alternative II</b>
<b>Seismic Event*</b>	<b>SSE coincidental with flood peak</b>	<b>OBE coincidental with flood peak</b>
<b>Coincidental Event</b>	<b>25-year Flood</b>	<b>Lesser of ½ PMF or 500-year Flood</b>
<b>Wind Wave</b>	<b>2-year wind speed in critical direction</b>	<b>2-year wind speed in critical direction</b>

\*Seismic SSE and OBE events in deterministic analysis vs exceedance probabilities from PSHA

# Combined Events Criteria Applicable to Open Coast/Riverine Sites

- Tsunami Flooding

Event Combination	Shore Location	Streamside (Alternatives I, II, III, IV)
Tsunami	PMT Runup	I Runup from PMT Bore II Runup from Worst Observed Tsunami Bore III Runup from SSE Tsunami Bore IV Runup from OBE Tsunami Bore
Antecedent or Concurrent	10% High Tide	I 25-year Flood II PMF III Mean Monthly Baseflow + SSE Dam Break Flood IV 25-year Flood + OBE Dam Break Flood
Wind Wave		I – IV 2-year wind speed in critical direction

# **Combined Events Criteria Applicable to Open Coast/Riverine Sites**

- **Other Site Specific Combined Events**

**Potential Breach of Large Onsite Basin due to PMSS, PMF or Dam Break Flood Wave**

# Combined Events in External Flooding

## Deterministic Approach

- **PMF**
  - PMP from NOAA HMRs
  - HEC-HMS Rainfall-Runoff Model; HEC-RAS for Flood Level Routing
  - Unit Hydrographs calibrated with 2 to 4 Largest Historical Storms
  - Peaking and Reduced Lag of Unit Hydrographs
  - Maximize Precipitation Depth over Basin
  - Back to Back Storms (40% PMP or 500-year Rain) with 3 to 5 days Interval: Zero Initial Loss, Bankfull
  - Sensitivity on Surface Roughness, Rainfall Loss Rate
  - Basin Areas from 300 sq. miles to 20,000 miles
  - 2-year wind – setup and wave runup
  - Gridded runoff model considered

# Combined Events in External Flooding

## Deterministic Approach

- **Dam Break Flooding**
  - $\frac{1}{2}$  PMP from NOAA HMRs; 25-year or 500-year rain from NOAA Atlas or TP
  - Breach Models (Wahl, USBR, Froehlich, FERC)
  - HEC-RAS for Flood Wave Routing
  - Sensitivity – Surface Roughness
  - Upstream Dams - 1 to over 60
  - Onsite Cooling Ponds
  - Basin Areas up to 20,000 sq. miles
  - 2-year wind – setup and wave runup

# Combined Events in External Flooding

## Deterministic Approach

- **Storm Surge Flooding**
  - **PMH parameters from NOAA NWS 23**
  - **Maximize Surge Level by varying hurricane tracks**
  - **10% Exceedance High Tide from NOAA tide data**
  - **Sea Level Rise included – 100-year projection**
  - **SLOSH or ADCIRC**
  - **Sensitivity – Forward Speed, Radius of Maximum Wind**
  - **Attendance wind-wave runup**

# Combined Events in External Flooding

## Deterministic Approach

- **Tsunami Flooding**
  - **PMT Seismic or Submarine Landslides**
  - **Literature Review for Source Identification and Characterization**
  - **Establish Conservative Initial Wave Form**
  - **10% Exceedance High Tide from NOAA tide data**
  - **Sea Level Rise included – 100-year projection**
  - **MOST (East Break Slump); FUNWAVE and NHWave (Cape Fear, Florida Escarpment and Great Bahamas Bank), Delft3D (1755 Lisbon)**
  - **Sensitivity – Initial Wave Height and Shape, Surface Roughness in Inundation Phase**

# Combined Events in External Flooding Probabilistic Approach - Considerations

- Individual or Combined Hazard Curve
- Dependence among Combining Events
- Associated Hazards besides Flooding Levels
  - Flooding Duration, Time of Arrival
  - Hydrostatic and Hydrodynamic Forces
  - Debris, Scouring, Waterborne Missiles
- NUREG/CR-7046 “individual, worst-case flood hazards may result from different flooding mechanisms. Therefore, it may not be appropriate to focus on a single “design-basis flood;” rather, the design should consider the worst-case hazards resulting from all appropriate combined-effects floods that are relevant..”



# Combined Events in External Flooding Probabilistic Approach - Considerations

- **Acceptance Criteria:  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  –  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  (?)**
- **Combine deterministic and probabilistic approaches?**
- **Improvement on the uncertainties**
- **How will the quantified uncertainties be incorporated into Risk Assessment?**
- **New Guidance and Standard (ANS 2.31, ANS 2.8,?)**
- **Level of Effort**