

April 11, 1995

LICENSEE: Duke Power Company

FACILITY: Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF JANUARY 31, 1995, MEETING WITH DUKE POWER COMPANY AND
B&W FUELS COMPANY CONCERNING MARK B11 FUEL ASSEMBLY PROGRAM

On January 31, 1995, NRC staff members met with representatives of Duke Power Company (DPC) and B&W Fuels Company (BWFC) to discuss the development program and implementation plan and schedule for the B&W Mark B11 fuel assembly. Meeting attendees are listed in Enclosure 1. The agenda for the meeting is included as Enclosure 2. Copies of non-proprietary handouts are included as Enclosure 3.

Presentations by the DPC and BWFC representatives provided an overview of the Mark B11 design activities, which was initiated as a joint fuel assembly design study in May 1993. The BWFC representatives provided a technical description of the design of the new fuel assemblies and the associated accident analyses needed to support the new fuel. Implementation and test schedules were presented for both the Lead Test Assembly (LTA) installation and full batch implementation at Oconee. The use of the 10 CFR 50.59 process for the LTA implementation and the licensing submittals needed for full batch implementation were described. In closing, DPC representatives stated that they desired a follow-up meeting with the NRC to discuss the scope of a Topical Report on non-LOCA transient analyses. It was tentatively agreed to plan for such a meeting in the June 1995 time-frame.

/s/

Leonard A. Wiens, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

Enclosures:

1. Meeting Attendees
2. Meeting Agenda
3. Non-proprietary Handouts

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. A. Wiens", is positioned above the typed name.

Leonard A. Wiens, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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January 31, 1995

Enclosure 1

Agenda

Duke / BWFC Presentation to NRC Mk-B11 Development Program

Background	(J.E. Burchfield, 15 mins.)
Development Program	
Design Description	(D.A. Gottuso, 30 mins.)
LOCA Analysis	(J.A. Klingenfus, 15 mins.)
Safety Analysis	(G.B. Swindlehurst, 15 mins.)
Testing	(M.E. Aldrich, 15 mins.)
Irradiation Program	(R.M. Gribble, 15 mins.)
O1C17 Mk-B11 LTA Analysis	(R.M. Gribble, 15 mins.)
Summary	(K.S. Canady, 10 mins.)



DUKE POWER

Background

J. Ed Burchfield
Duke Power
ONS Regulatory Compliance

Mk-B11 Development Program

Meeting Objectives

- **Provide an Overview of Mark B11 Design Activities**
- **Describe 50.59 Process for Implementing 4 Lead Test Assemblies (LTAs) beginning with Oconee 1 Cycle 17**
- **Outline Licensing Submittals Necessary to Support Full Batch Implementation of Mark B11 Design Beginning with Oconee 3 Cycle 19**

Fuel Rod Optimization Design Study

- **Duke Power and BWFC Initiated a Joint Fuel Assembly Design Study in May of 1993**
- **Design Study Objectives**
 - **Fuel Cycle Cost Reduction**
 - **No Reduction In Thermal Margin**
 - **Ensure Design Would Meet Mechanical Design Limits**
 - **Ensure Design Would Satisfy Current Burnup Limits**

Design Study Assumptions

- **ONS Cycle Length of 470 EFPD**
- **Feed Batch Size of 56 Assemblies**
- **Range of Fuel Rod Diameters Form 0.410 to 0.430 Inches Considered**
- **Maximum Fuel Pin Burnup Limit of 60,000 MWD/mtU**

Overview of Analyses

- **Scoping Calculations Indicated That Fuel Utilization Is Optimized By Maximizing the Uranium Loading of the Assemblies**
- **Based on Scoping Calculations, Each Fuel Rod Design Incorporated the Following Characteristics:**
 - **Thinner Cladding**
 - **Smaller Fuel-to-Cladding Gap**
 - **Increased Stack Height**
 - **Increased Theoretical Density**

Overview of Analyses (continued)

- **Core Physics Calculations Were Performed for a Range of Rod Diameters**
- **Thermal Hydraulic Calculations Were Completed for Each Design to Evaluate Thermal Margin. Impact of Mixing Vane Grids Was Incorporated.**
- **Fuel Mechanical Calculations Were Performed to Evaluate:**
 - **Internal Pin Pressure**
 - **Creep Collapse**

Conclusions of Study

- **For a Given Fuel Rod OD, Fuel Utilization is Optimized By Maximizing the Uranium Loading of the Fuel Assembly.**
- **Fuel Utilization Continues to Improve As Fuel Rod OD is Decreased**
- **Thermal Margin Decreases as Fuel Rod OD Decreases**
- **Fuel Assembly/Pin Burnup Increases as Fuel Rod OD Decreases**
- **Pin Peaking Increases as Fuel Rod OD Decreases**

Conclusions of Study (continued)

- **Fuel Rod OD of 0.416 Inches Is Optimum for ONS Cores**
- **Mixing Vane Grids Offsets Slight Increase in Pin Peaking/Decrease in Thermal Margin Associated With the Fuel Rod OD Reduction**
- **Fuel Rod Burnup Limits/Mechanical Limits Are Met For 0.416 OD Fuel Rod**
- **Duke Power and BWFC Performed Independent Calculations to Confirm 0.416 OD Design. Agreement Between These Calculations Was Excellent**

Mk-B11 Design Description

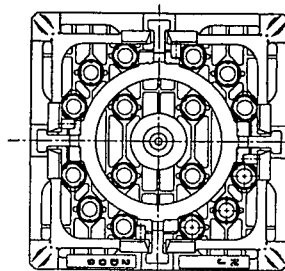
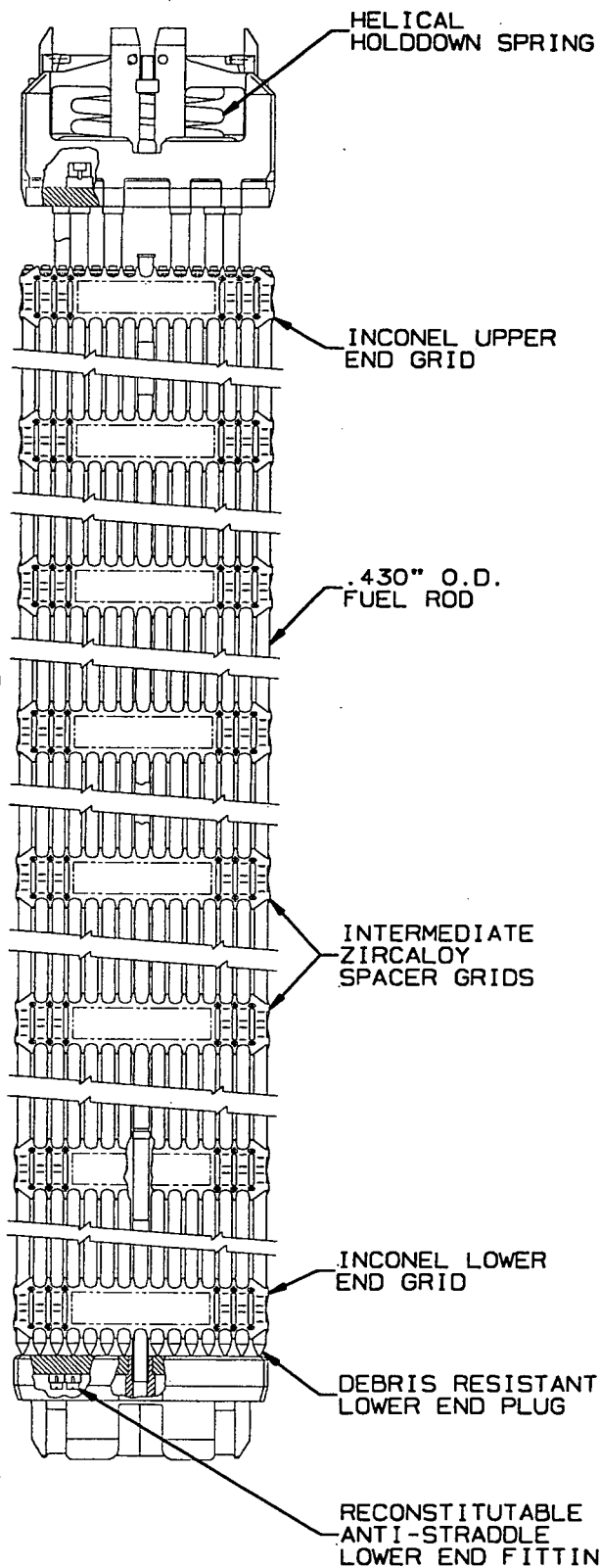
Dennis A. Gottuso
Mk-B Product Engineering Mgr.
B&W Fuel Company



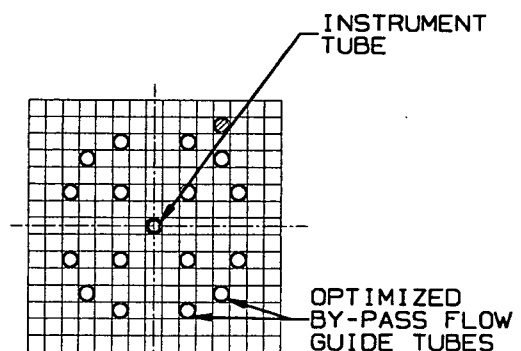
Mark-B Products

- **Mark-B9 fuel assembly**
 - 0.430" O.D. B9 fuel rod
 - Helical hold down spring
- **Mark-B10 fuel assembly**
 - 0.430" O.D. B9 fuel rod
 - Cruciform hold down spring
- **Mark-B10T fuel assembly**
 - 0.430" O.D. B10 fuel rod
 - Cruciform hold down spring
 - Increased uranium loading

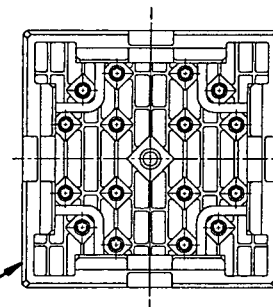
MARK-B9 FUEL ASSEMBLY



TOP VIEW

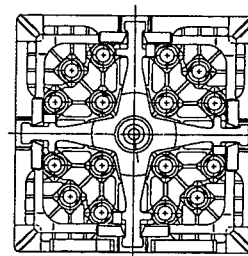
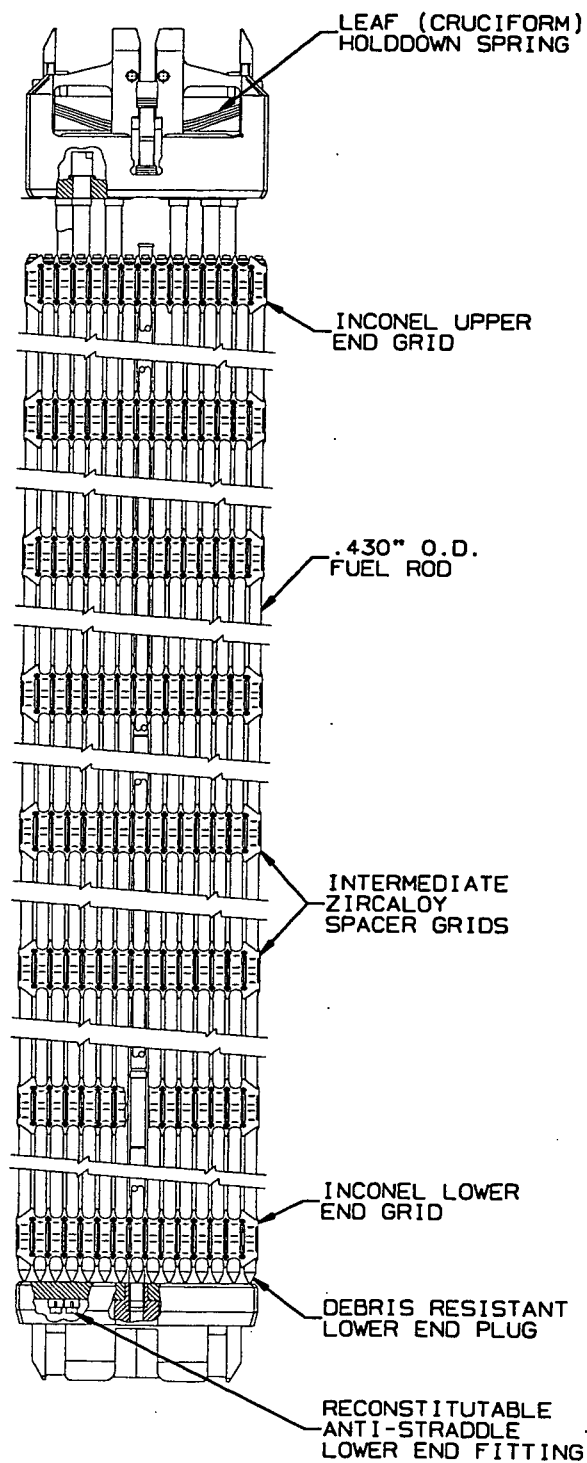


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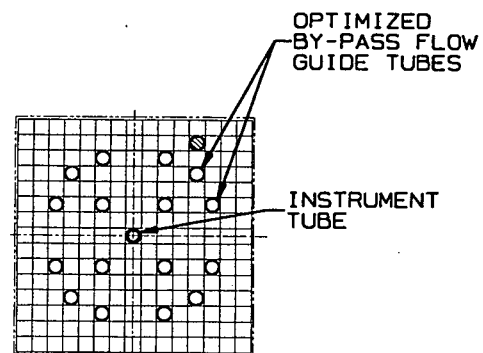


BOTTOM VIEW

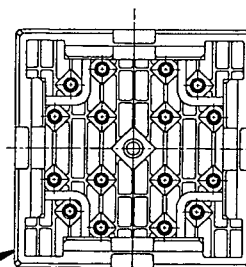
MARK-B10 FUEL ASSEMBLY



TOP VIEW



CROSS SECTION



BOTTOM VIEW

Mark-B Products

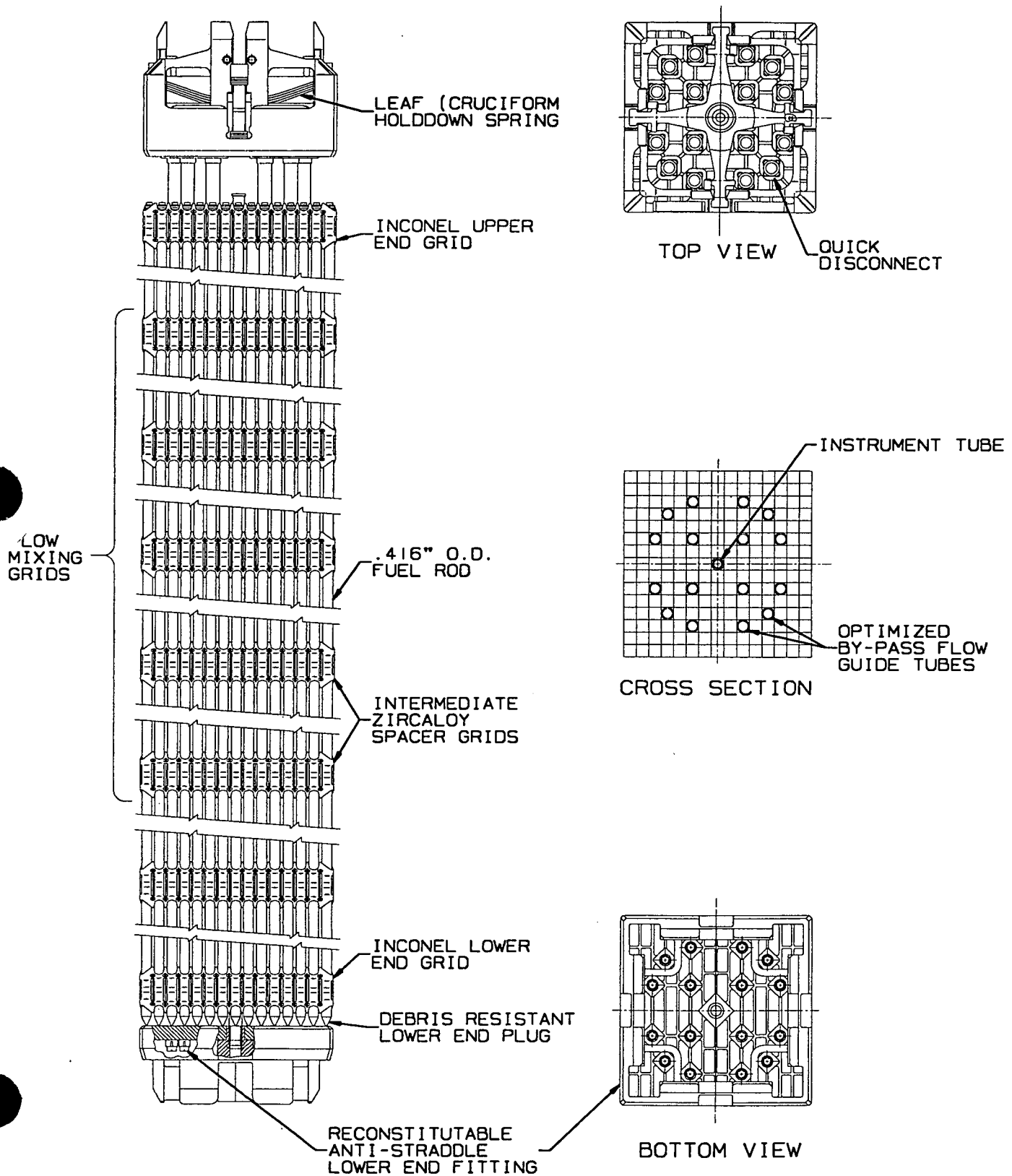
New Fuel Assembly Design Objectives

- Lower fuel costs
- Enhanced thermal-hydraulic performance
 - Increase in peaking margin
 - Increase in DNB margin
- Quick disconnect UEF

Mark-B Products

- **Mark-B11 fuel assembly**
 - **0.416" O.D. B11 fuel rod**
 - **Integral flow diverter spacer grid**
 - **Quick disconnect UEF**
 - **Cruciform hold down spring**

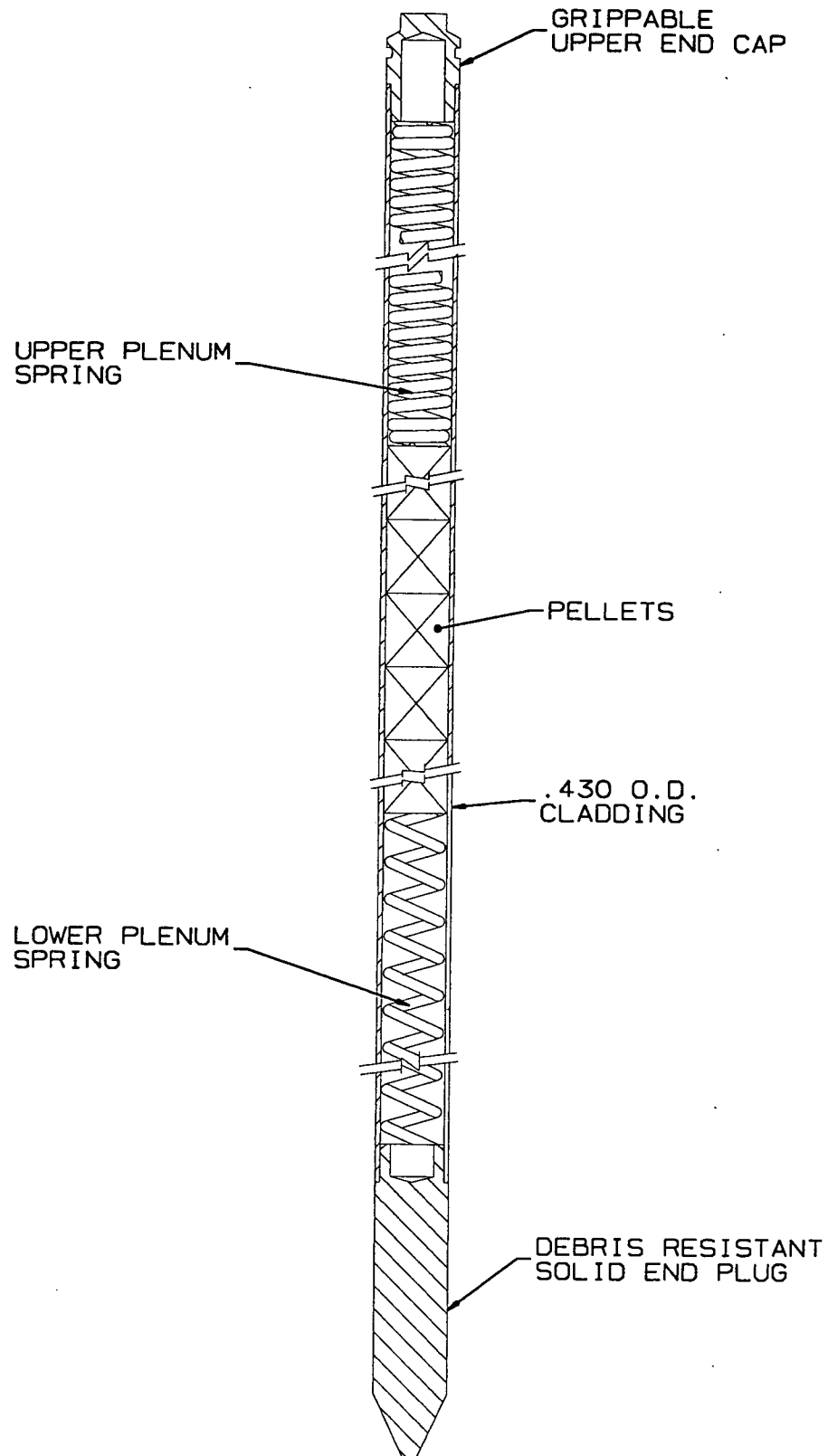
MARK-B11 FUEL ASSEMBLY



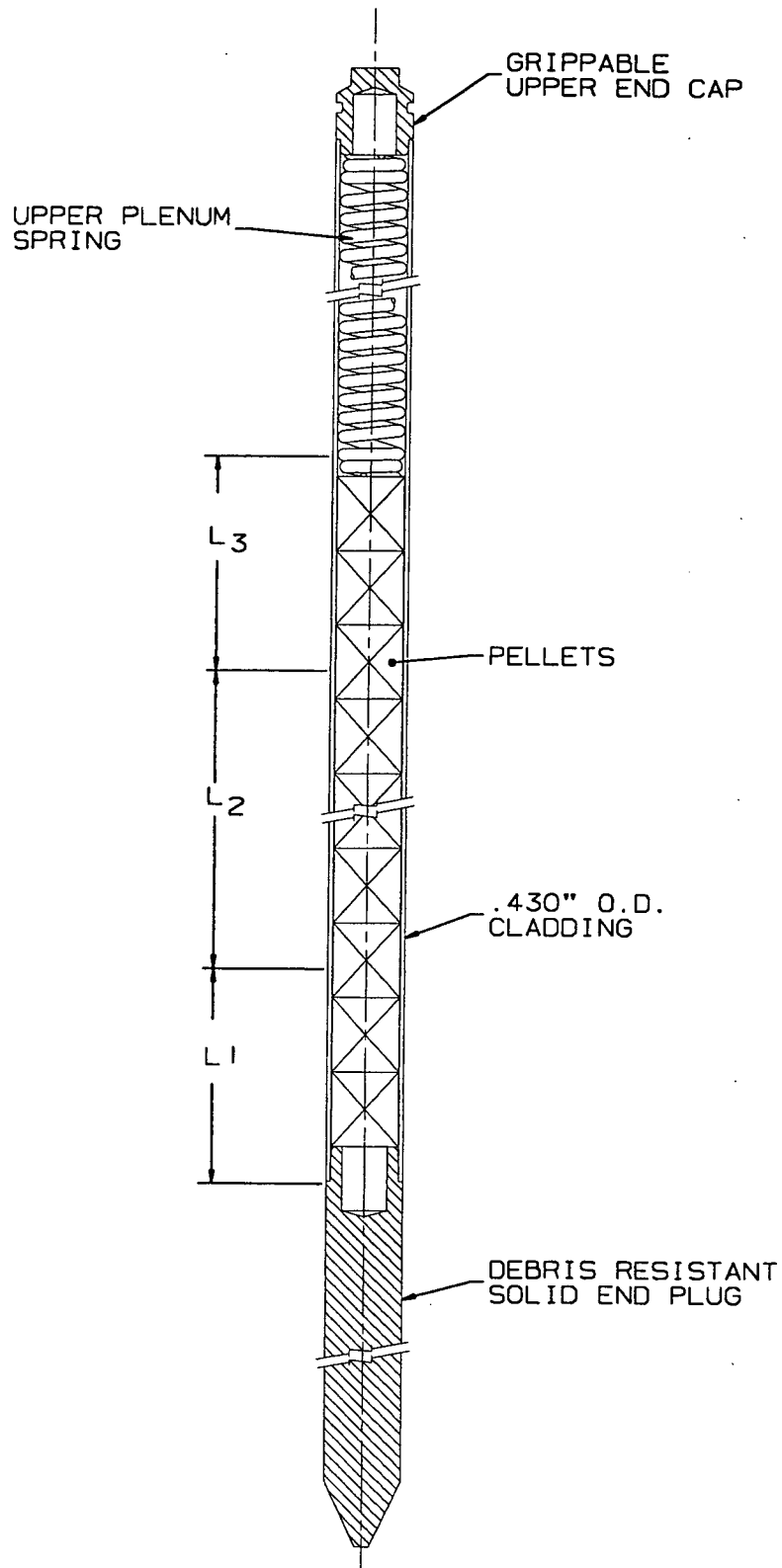
Mark-B Fuel Rod Comparision

- **B9 axial blanket fuel rod**
 - **Currently operating in Mark-B10 fuel assembly in Oconee 2, Cycle 15**
- **B10 axial blanket fuel rod**
 - **Integral to Mark-B10T fuel assembly**
 - **Planned for Oconee 3, Cycle 16 (July, 1995)**
- **B11 axial blanket fuel rod**
 - **Integral to Mark-B11 fuel assembly**
 - **Lead assemblies planned for Oconee 1, Cycle 17 (November, 1995)**

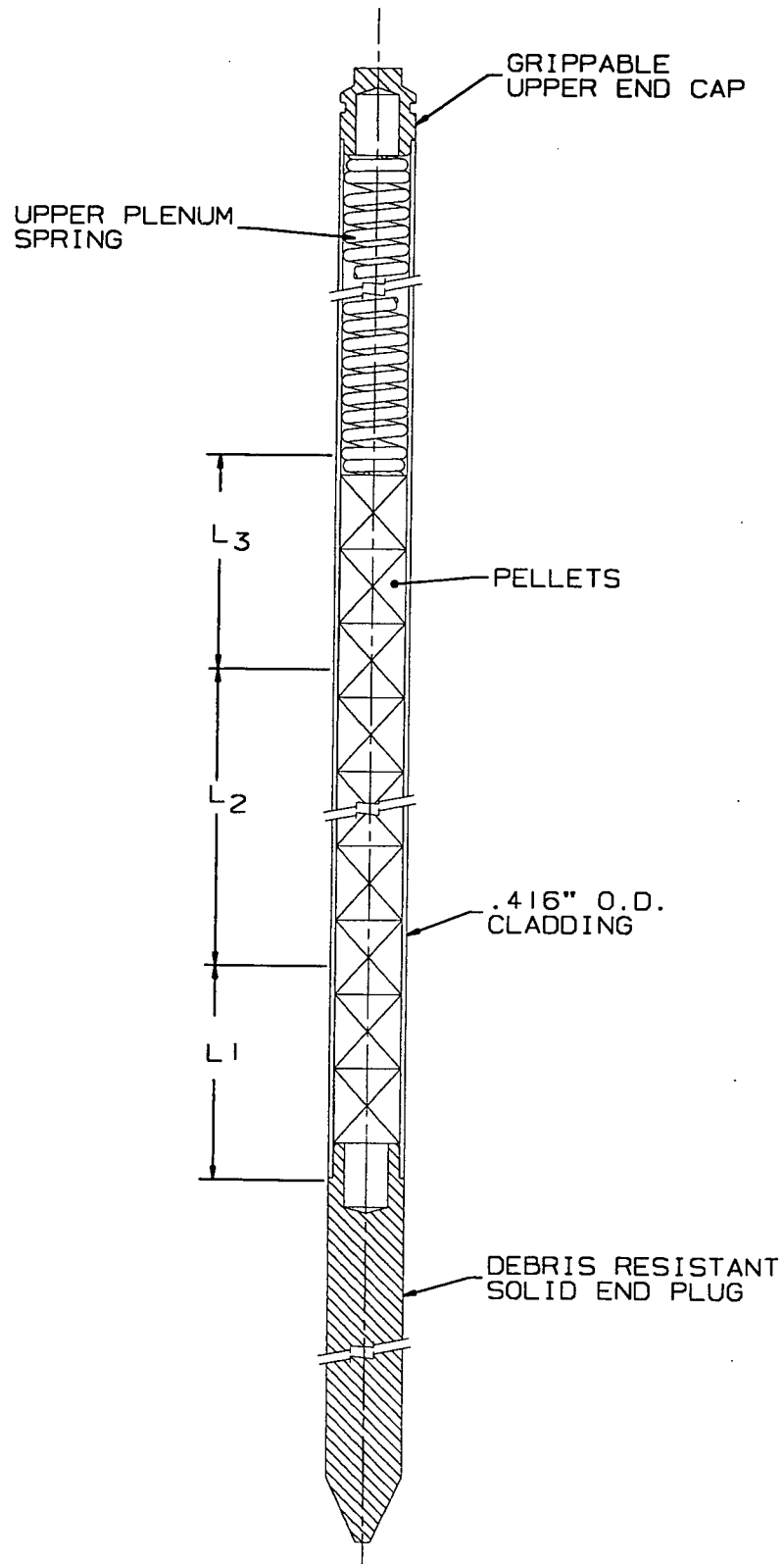
B-9 FUEL ROD



B10 FUEL ROD



B11 FUEL ROD





Comparison of Mk-B Fuel Rods

[b,c,d,e]



Comparison of Mk-B Fuel Rods

[b,c,d,e]



Comparison of Mk-B Fuel Rods

[b,c,d,e]



Comparison of Mk-B Fuel Rods

[b,c,d,e]



Fuel Assembly Comparison

[b,c,d,e]



Fuel Assembly Materials

[b,c,d,e]



B&W Fundamentals Maintained

[b,c,d,e]

John A. Klingenfus
BWNT

LOCA Analyses



LOCA Analyses

- LOCA methods
- LOCA analyses
- LTA LOCA LHR limits

Mark-B11 LTA LOCA Limits

- **Methods Topical Reports**
 - **RELAP5/MOD2-B&W -**
"BWNT LOCA" BAW10192, Rev 0
 - Submitted to NRC 2/94
 - All codes used have SERs
 - **CRAFT2/THETA1-B -**
"B&Ws ECCS Evaluation Model"
BAW10104, Rev 5
 - Approved



Mark-B11 LTA LOCA Limits

[b,c,d,e]

Mark-B11 LTA LOCA Limits

[b,c,d,e]



Mark-B11 LTA LOCA Limits

[b,c,d,e]



Mark-B11 LTA LL Calculation

[b,c,d,e]



Mark-B11 LOCA Limits

[b , c , d , e]

Non-LOCA Safety Analysis To Support Implementation of Mk-B11 LTAs and Full Cores

- **O1C17 Reload with LTAs will be evaluated to ensure that the current licensing basis remains valid**
 - Key Safety Analysis Physics Parameters
 - Technical Specifications
 - Limits in the COLR
 - No problem expected
- **The Steady-State Thermal/Hydraulic Analysis to ensure acceptable DNBRs in the LTAs is also applicable to the Chapter 15 Transients**

Non-LOCA Safety Analysis To Support Implementation of Mk-B11 LTAs and Full Cores (continued)

- **Duke will be submitting a Topical Report on Non-LOCA Transient Analysis in the 3rd quarter of 1996 (DPC-NE-3005)**
 - Update FSAR Chapter 15 (20 years old)
 - Using approved RETRAN/VIPRE models (some model improvements)
 - Desire NRC input on the scope of the Topical Report
 - NRC approval will be needed to support O3C19 core design with Mk-B11 fuel (18 month NRC review period)

Mark-B11 Test Program

Mike Aldrich

B&W Fuel Company

Thermal & Performance Analysis





Test Program Overview

[b,c,d,e]



Pressure Drop

[b,c,d,e]



Life and Wear

[b,c,d,e]

Flow Induced Vibration

[b,c,d,e]



Critical Heat Flux

[b,c,d,e]



Laser Doppler Velocimeter

[b,c,d,e]



Fuel Assembly Mechanical

[b,c,d,e]



Fuel Assembly Mechanical (Continued)

[b,c,d,e]

Current Testing Schedule

[b,c,d,e]



Mk-B11 LTA Irradiation Program

Lead Assembly Irradiation

**Ron M. Gribble
Duke Power
Nuclear Engineering (G.O.)**

Duke Progression to Mk-B11

- Objectives:
- Fuel Cycle Cost Reduction
 - Equivalent Burnup
 - No reduction in thermal margins

Mark B10 (Rod Burnup = 60,000 max.)



Mark B10T (Rod Burnup = 60,000 max.)

- Same O.D.
- Thinner clad
- Smaller gap
- Taller stack
- Maximized U-loading



Mark B11 (Rod Burnup = 60,000 max.)

- Smaller O.D.
- Mixing vane grids
- Maximized U-loading

Mk-B11 LTA Irradiation Program

- 4 Lead Assemblies
- Non-limiting
- Approved methods

Exceptions:

LOCA EM

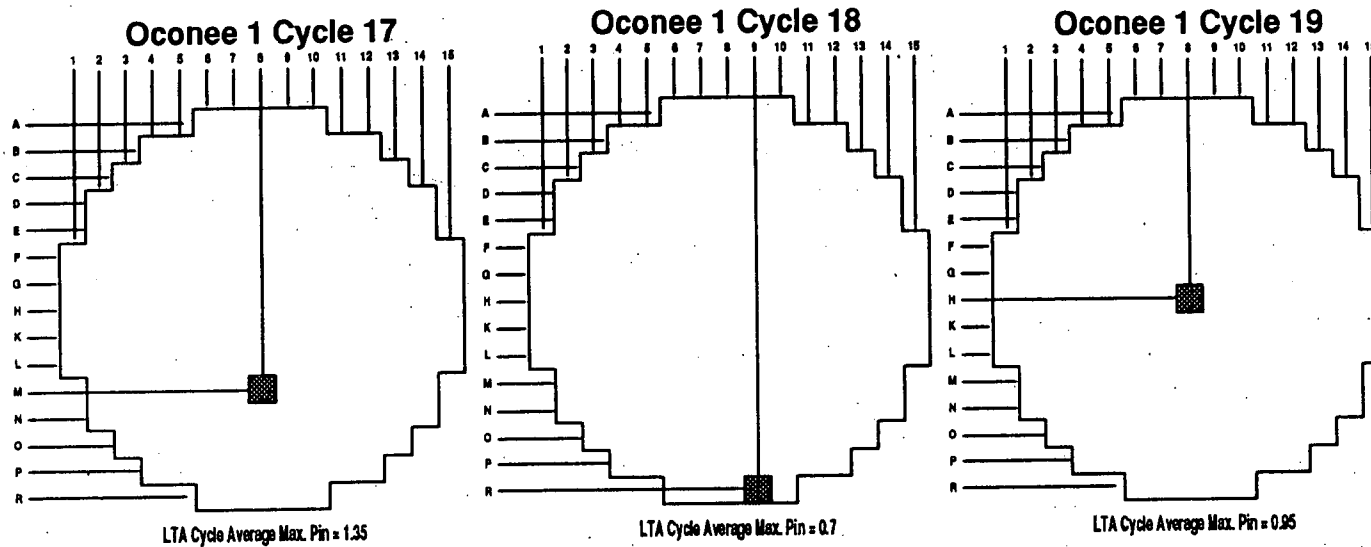
BWCMV applicability to LTAs

OCONEE Mk-B11 DESIGN SCHEDULE

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LTA Irradiation Program Objective

- **2 cycles of PIE prior to full batch**
- **Address standard concerns and emerging issues**
- **High, yet non-limiting 1st cycle exposure**
 - Demonstrate fuel rod integrity
 - Maximize grid relaxation
- **Residence in 2nd cycle at most susceptible baffle locations (with relaxed grids)**
- **Reinsert in center of core 3rd cycle to maximize burnup**



Anticipated Mk-B11 LTA Post Irradiation Examination Scope

- **FA Visual**
- **FA Growth**
- **FA Bow**
- **Shoulder Gap**
- **Fuel Rod Oxide**
- **Fuel Rod Diameter**
- **Fuel Rod Lifts & Visual**
- **Water Channel**
- **Grid Position**

Analyses/Tests Completed Prior to LTA Loading

- **Critical Heat Flux Testing**
- **Transition core hydraulic and DNBR analysis
(BWC and BWCMV Correlations)**
- **Fuel assembly incremental pressure drop test
(including subchannel form losses)**
- **Flow Induced Vibration Test (of Mk-B10 and B11)**
- **CRDL life and wear test**
- **Mk-B11 fuel rod mechanical analyses**
- **LOCA Analysis**

Mk-B11 NRC Support Needed

Mk-B10T (O3C16 full batch)

- NRC TACO3 Audit of Duke completed and inspection report issued (March 31, 1995)
- CROV 9 approved (April 1, 1995)
- Technical Specification Submittal Approval (May, 1995)
- NRC Review of Oconee Enrichment Upgrade (Included with Tech. Spec. submittal)

Mk-B11 LTAs (O1C17)

- 50.59

Mk-B11 (O3C19)

- BWU (Mk-B11) Topical Approval (January, 1998)
- LOCA Topical Approval (January, 1998)
- Statistical Core Design Addendum Approval (April, 1998)
- Chapter 15 Approval (April, 1998)
- Mk-B11 Mechanical Topical Review (June, 1999)