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A. VIOLATIONS:

None

B. NONCONFORMANCES:

Contrary to Section 17.5 of the Topical Report and Quality Assurance of Design Procedure (QADP) No. 5.7, Sections 1.4.1.3, 2.4.1, and 2.4.2, the shoulder gap modification of Batch C assemblies for ANO-2 was accomplished without the implementation of the design change procedure as evidenced by:

- 1. An FAR was not issued to document the problem and its solution.
- No documentation was available which would indicate that a review had been performed in regard to: (a) determination of the cause and corrective action, (b) applicability to other projects, and (c) determination if changes are required to the design process to prevent similar deficiencies.
- C. UNRESOLVED ITEMS:

None

- D. OTHER FINDINGS OR COMMENTS:
 - 1. Design Process:
 - a. ANO-2 Shoulder Gap The mechanical design of the shoulder gap was inspected with respect to the initial core (Batches A, B, and C), reloads D and E, and the Batch C modification. The shoulder gap modification was made to prevent fuel rod contact with the upper flow plate and subsequent bowing. It consisted of the addition of a shim between the bottom of the upper flow plate and the top of the fuel rods. The design review, design calculation log, and lists of qualified design reviewers were inspected. The physics input data, the design criteria, and bases were examined. The computer programs and their verification were also inspected. The design drawings (design output) were examined, and the statistical screening calculations plus models used to identify the Batch C fuel assemblies to be modified were inspected. Shoulder gap measurements at the end of Cycle 2 were also reviewed.

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b. Fuel Assembly AKC-204 - It was also noted that one fuel assembly, AKC-204, was identified in the manufacturing order as not having its center guide tube to be sleeved. This is contrary to previous information supplied to the NRC which stated that all center guide tubes would be sleeved. The modification of AKC-204 was stated to have encountered a condition which precluded the center guide tube's sleeving.

2. 10 CFR Part 21:

CE personnel stated that the shoulder gap closure problem was not considered to be of a magnitude which would require evaluation with respect to 10 CFR Part 21 requirements. Accordingly, there was no documentation of this problem as having being reviewed in accordance with CE 10 CFR Part 21 Procedure API-17 requirements. In regard to the shoulder gap, CE had reportedly identified a concern in this area to ANO on July 13, 1982. A design calculation (6370-610-94) was begun on July 17, 1982, and completed with its design review on September 17, 1982. This calculation predicted an end of Cycle 3 gap of 0.050 inches and, consequently, concluded there was no shoulder gap closure problem. On July 27, 1982, Manufacturing Order 9030355, Supplement 9 was issued to fabricate the shims in accordance with an engineering sketch. On August 30, 1982, the first special inspection instructions were issued on the ANO-2 Batch C fuel for measurement and evaluation of gap closure. On October 5, 1982, CE informed the NRC in a memorandum of the condition. Based on the above, it was not possible to establish when the shoulder gap question was indeed identified as a problem by CE engineering and management. CE management and engineering monthly reports were not made available to allow establishment of the applicable time frame in regard to identification of the problem.

Statistical Screening Criteria:

The statistical screening criteria used to establish which Batch C fuel assemblies were required to be modified has no quantified confidence level. The screening was performed assuming the worst case of shoulder gap closure rate that had been observed at the end of Cycle 2 in two pre-characterized (i.e., premeasured) Batch C assemblies. The prediction of end of Cycle 3 shoulder gaps was then made using end of Cycle 2 shoulder gap measurements of observable rods and utilizing the growth rate identified above with a projected fluence for Cycle 3. It was then simulated (Monte Carlo) what the nonobserved rods' shoulder gap distribution would be with the same identified growth rate, highest range of projected fluences, and a projected worst gap based on a 99.5% distribution of the observed gaps. If less than 5% of the above rod simulations resulted in a gap of less than zero, an assembly was accepted. Hence, accepted assemblies have a 95% probability that no rod will contact.

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However, because of the "worst case" assumptions and the Monte Carlo simulation, no confidence factor is apparent; e.g., 95% confidence that there is a 95% probability that no rod will contact.

4. Zircaloy Growth Models:

The data collected by CE after Cycle 1 and reported under an Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) project published in July 1982 (Report No. CE NPSD-174) used models which predicted greater fuel rod growth and less guide tube growth than the models used in the original or even the current design. The shoulder gap modification was necessitated because of under prediction of the shoulder gap closure that results from differential growths of the fuel rods and the guide tubes within the fuel assembly. The current constants used by CE in the equations for predicting zircaloy growth under irradiation are referenced in Topical Report CENPD 198-P. These constants are smaller than the constants used with these equations in the EPRI report. The data points for ANO-2 Cycle 1 fuel rod growth fall within 95% confidence limit bands around a line of best fit of the design equation. However, the larger constants as in the EPRI report showed better agreement with the line of best fit. In regard to guide tubes, it was noted that data points lay below the 95% confidence limits of the design model. This has been reported (EPRI report) as being related to fuel assembly hold down spring pressure.

5. Design Calculations and their Verification:

It was observed that some of the design calculations were not controlled, in that:

- a. The statistical screening criteria and the mechanical design of the modified fuel had not been given the required design verification as of the inspection date, although the modification had been completed.
- b. The mechanical design calculation for the modified fuel was not entered into the design log books. Entering the calculation in the logs identifies it as part of the design process for that project.
- c. The historical calculation which established the larger shoulder gap for the Batch D fuel and assumed higher burn-up, could not be found. Because of the larger shoulder gap used for Batch D fuel assemblies, no modification is required.

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GAK MARJEY	CA ENG	11
STEV HATFIELD	FUEL DESIGN MECHICAL SUPER.	"
RICK BRODERS	FUEL DESIGN ENG	11
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6370-	9	ANO/DOF Clad Collapse and Dimensional Change Ver.	410/81	
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API-17	3	REPORTING OF SAFETY HAZARDS	1/23/29	2
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- 1. Drawing
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- 3. Procedure
- 4. QA Manual
- 5. Purchas Order
- 6. Internal Memo
- 7. Letter
- 8. Other (Specify-If necessary)

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