



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 31, 1994

Project No. 679

APPLICANT: ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED TECHNOLOGIES  
PROJECT: PREAPPLICATION REVIEW OF THE CANDU 3 REACTOR DESIGN  
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD WITH AECLT TO DISCUSS TOPICS RELATED TO  
THE CANDU 3 REACTIVITY CHARACTERISTICS AND THE PENDING DESIGN  
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

On March 15, 1994, the staff met with representatives of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited Technologies (AECLT) and AECL to discuss the CANDU 3 reactivity characteristics. The purpose of the meeting was to allow the staff to become more familiar with critical aspects of the design such as the reactivity characteristics, severe accident responses, and to discuss the pending design certification application.

Following the introductions, D. Hink, President AECLT opened up the presentation. Mr. Hink discussed the CANDU 3 program and background indicating that AECLT was on a ten year plan relating to design certification resources and schedules. Funding existed for NRC fees, design changes resulting from the review, as well as other support services. Mr. Hink stated that AECLT could support a 3- 5-year design certification review. Mr. Russell indicated that the NRC would be looking toward the longer end of the schedule range to plan its resource allocations. Mr. Russell ask for a specific date for the design certification application in order that NRC make the necessary plans to review the application. Presently, there were no resources allocated for the design certification only the preapplication review. Mr. Hink indicated that AECLT would send a letter by April 15, 1994, detailing the application date. He though that date would be August 1994.

Asked about the EPRI Requirements, AECLT indicated that the EPRI Requirements would be decoupled from the CANDU 3 application although they realized that they must address the EPRI Requirements Document related to appropriate CANDU 3 issues. They also understand the need to address operating experience, and plan to do so from a world-wide experience stand point.

Victor Snell discussed the evolution of the CANDU design. Stating that some of the reasons for the evolution of the CANDU reactors were the involvement in the 1940's with natural uranium, heavy water experimental facilities, the ability to alter the size of a CANDU reactor by changing the number of pressure tubes in the reactor, and the capability for on line refueling. One of the drawbacks of the CANDU technology is the positive coolant void reactivity. Reactor shut down must be accomplished in approximately 2 seconds for a worst case LOCA. To counter act the positive coolant void reactivity and accomplish a safe shut down in LOCA conditions, CANDU 3 has 2 fast acting independent and diverse shutdown systems; one mechanical and one liquid

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poison. Each of these shutdown systems is independently capable of shutting the reactor down. Both systems measure core power and actuate at different power levels. The mechanical system (rods) would actuate first at some preset core power level then if the core power continues to increase the next set point is reached and the liquid poison system actuates.

The need for 2 shutdown systems came about as a result of the NRX accident in 1952. A series of operator errors resulted in extensive damage; fuel melting and hydrogen burning. The lesson learned from NRX was the need for a fast acting, independent, and reliable shut down system. Also, the reactivity control must be separate from the shutdown control.

The CANDU 3 physics and severe accidents were also discussed. Most of the severe accident effort on CANDU is a result of the CANDU 6 design development. AECL discussed the inherent cooling capability of the CANDU design. When a pressure tube is voided of its coolant, inherent cooling occurs as the pressure tube heats up, expands, and contacts the calandria tube: cooling is then effected through the moderator. AECL discussed the large break loss-of-coolant (LB LOCA) without scram accident previously assessed by the staff. If this accident were to occur, AECL expects early failure of a number of fuel channels, and significant fuel melting; however, failure of the first channel will create a steam bubble in the moderator and quickly shut the reactor down. AECL expects the frequency of this LB LOCA accident to be less than  $10^{-9}$ /year. Presently, there has been no PRA done for CANDU 3.

Following the notification from AECLT of the application date, NRC plans to meet with the Atomic Energy Control Board and to visit a CANDU 6 facility. Enclosure 1 is a copy of the presentation view graphs and Enclosure 2 is a copy of the meeting attendees. The meeting was very informative to the staff and its consultants and went a long way to enhance the staff's knowledge of the design.

Original signed by:

Dino Scaletti, Sr. Project Manager  
 Advanced Reactors Project Directorate  
 Division of Advanced Reactor  
 and Special Project

Enclosures:  
 As stated

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 See next page

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| EJordan            | NRC Participants | ACRS (10)    |

\* See previous concurrence

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| NAME   | PShea           | DScaletti      | GMarcus <i>Eno</i> |
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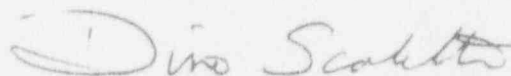
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CANDU  
Project No. 679

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MEETING NRC/AECL ATTENDEES LIST  
March 15, 1994

| <u>NAME</u>     | <u>ORGANIZATION</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| D. Scaletti     | NRR/ADAR/PDAR       |
| P. Chan         | AECL/CANDU          |
| D. Wright       | AECL/CANDU          |
| L. A. Simpson   | AECL/RESEARCH       |
| E. Throm        | NRR/ADAR/PDAR       |
| V. Snell        | AECL-T              |
| S. Hink         | AECL-T              |
| L. Rib          | AECLT               |
| R. Meyer        | NRC/RES             |
| M. Fletcher     | AECLT               |
| N. Ichiyen      | AECL/CANDU          |
| P. Kohut        | BNL                 |
| D. Dill         | NRC/SRXB            |
| R. Landry       | NRR/ADAR/PDAR       |
| C. Slovik       | BNL                 |
| J. King         | NRC/RES             |
| G. Thomes       | NRC/NRR             |
| D. Carlson      | NRC/RES             |
| M. Virgilio     | NRC/NRR             |
| C. McCracken    | NRC/NRR             |
| C. Carpenter    | NRCC/NRR/DSSA       |
| R. Durante      | AECL-T              |
| D. Ebert        | NRC/RES             |
| H. Richines     | NRC/SRXB            |
| D. Desaulniers  | NRC/HHFB            |
| R. Eckenrode    | NRC/HHFB            |
| D. Crutchfield  | NRC/NRR             |
| W. Travers      | NRC/NRR             |
| F. Eltawila     | NRC/RES             |
| D. McPherson    | NRC/NRR             |
| M. Chiramak     | NRR/HICB            |
| K. Mortensen    | NRR/HICB            |
| M. Case         | NRR/ADAR            |
| L. Shotkin      | NRC/RES/DSR         |
| R. Kirkwood     | AECL-T              |
| F. Talbot       | NRC/NRR/RPEB        |
| P. Wigfull      | AGCR                |
| G. Marcus       | NRR/PDAR            |
| P. Allen        | AECL/CANDU          |
| S. Grant        | AECL/CANDU          |
| R. K. McCardell | EGG/INEL            |
| D. M. M. Aly    | AECB/DRR            |
| R. L. Ferguson  | AECL-T              |
| F. W. Sciacca   | SEA                 |
| N. Saltos       | NRC/NRR/SPSB        |

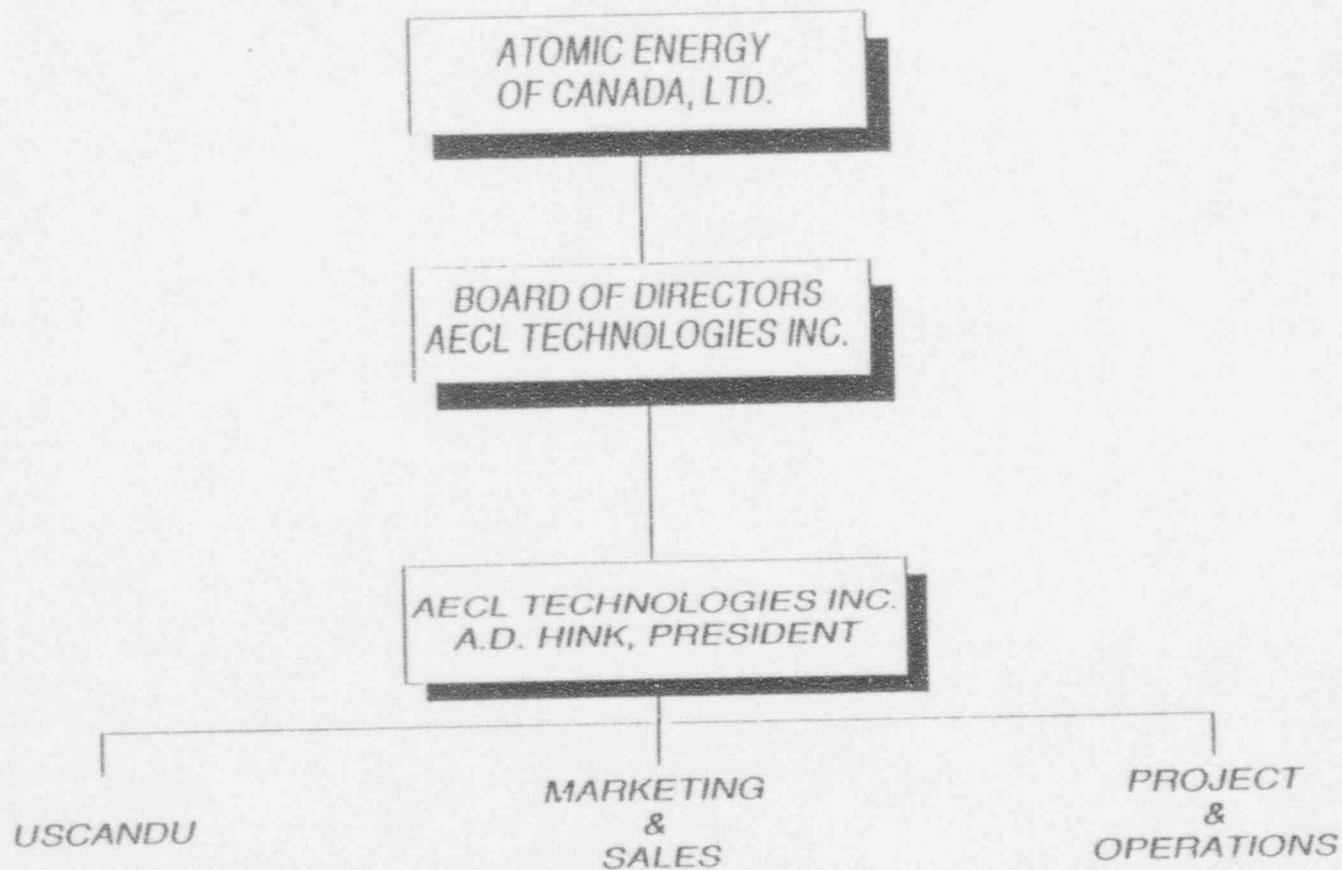


AECL Technologies Inc.

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# CANDU REACTIVITY CHARACTERISTICS

Presentation by  
AECL-Technologies Inc.  
March 1994





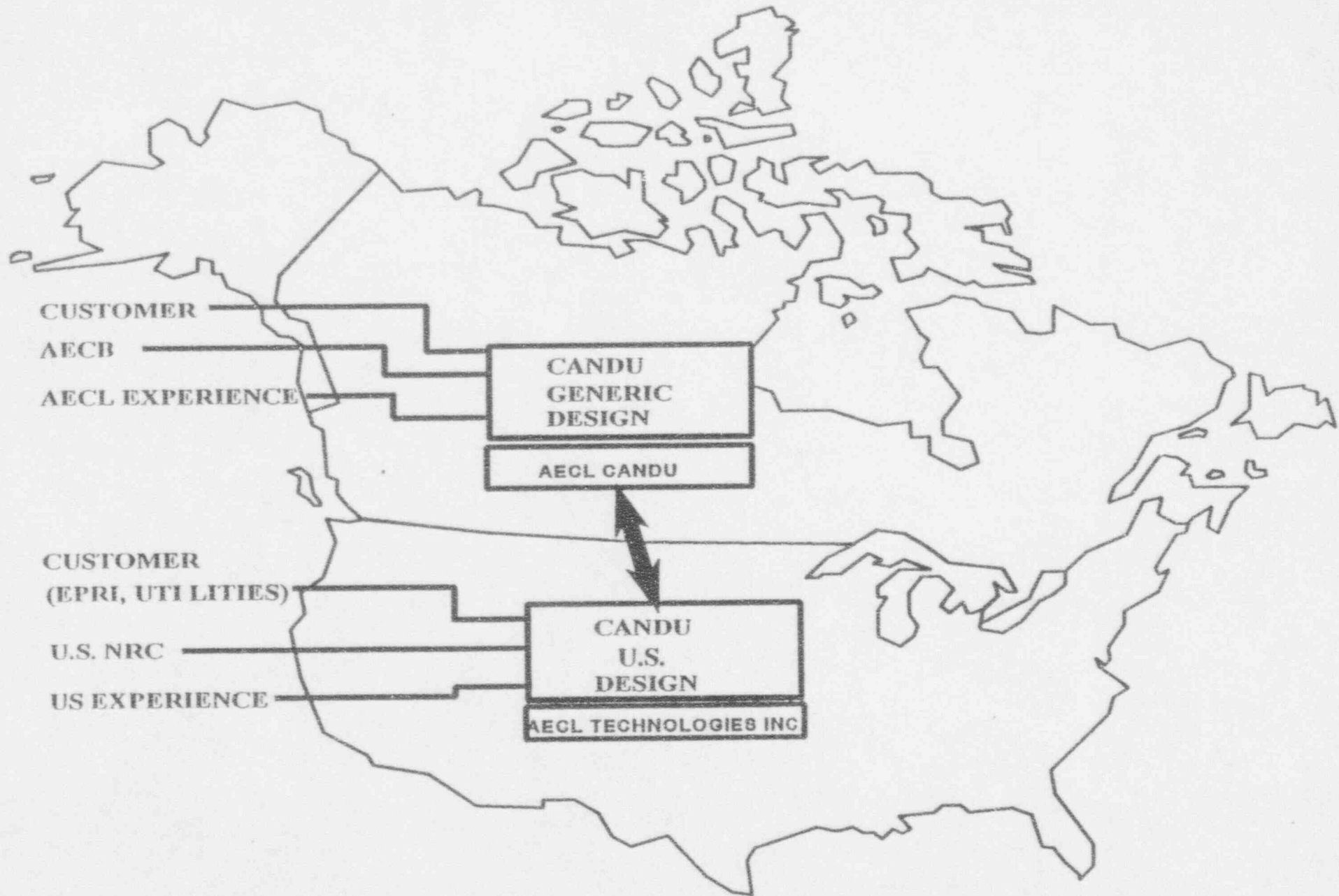


## CANDU 3 PROGRAM BACKGROUND

- BEGAN 1987
- BASED ON SUCCESSFUL CANDU 6
- TARGETED AT MARKET FOR SMALLER PLANTS
- ANTICIPATES SECOND PHASE OF COMMERCIALIZATION



# AECL Technologies Inc.





## BENEFIT & CHALLENGES

- CANDU INCORPORATED TECHNOLOGIES MAY HAVE A BROADER USE
  - CADD DESIGN & DOCUMENT CONTROL
  - AUTOMATED DIGITAL SAFETY SYSTEM ACTIVATION
  - ON-LINE RELIABILITY TEST CAPABILITY
- REVIEW CANDU 3 SPD vs NRC PWR REQUIREMENTS
- DESIGN CHANGES vs EQUIVALENT SAFETY LOGIC



## BACKGROUND

- Application for SDC for CANDU 3
  - Evolutionary Design (27 Larger CANDUs Operating)
- Continues Dialogue with NRC
  - Letter of Intent May 25, 1989
  - Meetings with NRR, RES, ACRS on Pre-Application Process & Policy Issues
  - Submittal of Equivalent Safety Reviews
- Policy Issues Identified by NRC Staff & Commission, Some Concurrence, Some Outstanding
- One of the Key Issues: Reactivity Characteristics



## PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- To Provide an Integrated Set of Information to Help NRC Review
- To Initiate Dialogue on Requirements for Resolving this Policy Issue



AGENDA  
CANDU REACTIVITY CHARACTERISTICS  
Washington, 1994

| <b>ITEM</b>                          | <b>SPEAKER</b> | <b>TIME</b><br>(questions<br>additional) |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Purpose and Introduction of Speakers | A.D. Hink      | 25 mins                                  |
| Evolution of CANDU design            | V.G. Snell     | 45 mins                                  |
| CANDU physics                        | P. Chan        | 1.5 hours                                |
| Shutdown systems concept & design    | N. Ichlyen     | 1 hour                                   |
| Severe accidents                     | P. Allen       | 1 hour                                   |

# **EVOLUTION OF CANDU DESIGN**

**CONCEPT BASIS**

**IMPLICATIONS OF CONCEPT BASIS**

**SAFETY DESIGN APPROACH**

**SEVERE ACCIDENTS**





# IMPLICATIONS OF CONCEPT BASIS

- limited reactivity holdup due to on-power refuelling
  - total short-term movable reactivity ~ 3\$
  - max. reactivity in any one device ~ 0.3\$
  - core geometry near reactivity maximum
  - no changes in core state after initial operation

IMPLICATIONS OF CONCEPT BASIS - cont'd

- reactivity devices in moderator, not coolant
  - no pressure-assisted ejection
  - no hydraulic forces on shutdown systems for large LOCA
  
- long prompt neutron lifetime
  - 0.9 ms or 20X larger than LWRs
  - no abrupt change in behaviour for hypothetical reactivity insertions above prompt critical

## IMPLICATIONS OF CONCEPT BASIS - cont'd

- decoupling of moderator reactivity coefficients
  - negative feedback in certain severe accidents
- no poison in the coolant
- relatively large core, spatial control
- prompt negative feedback from Doppler effect
  - simple mechanical reactivity control

IMPLICATIONS OF CONCEPT BASIS - cont'd

- **positive coolant void coefficient**
  - **rate limited by hydraulics**  
**(< 0.6 \$ in 0.3 sec. for worst LOCA)**
  - **slower for loss of RCS pumps, loss of pressure control**
  - **requires shutdown within ~ 2 sec. for worst LOCA**
  - **can use mechanical or hydraulic devices**

IMPLICATIONS OF CONCEPT BASIS - cont'd

- inherent negative feedback for:
  1. cold or light water injection
    - no need to borate ECC
  2. steam-line break
  3. turbine stop-valve closure

# SAFETY DESIGN APPROACH

- NRX accident (1952)
  - complex shutdown system & common-cause failure of several rods
  - terminated by rupture of a few channels and "dumping the polymer"
- tolerate DBA + unavailability of special safety system (ECCS, shutdown system, active part of containment)

## SAFETY DESIGN APPROACH - cont'd

- **options:**

1. **analyze DBA's without shutdown**
2. **provide redundant & diverse shutdown systems**

- **modern CANDUs use option 2**

- **increases real safety**
- **avoids speculative analysis**
- **now regulatory requirement**

SAFETY DESIGN APPROACH - cont'd

- **shutdown system requirements:**
  - **diverse in design, operation, maintenance**
  - **independent of each other and control system**
  - **tested regularly at power to demonstrate availability of 0.999**
  - **each system fully effective for all DBAs (to cold shutdown)**



SAFETY DESIGN APPROACH - cont'd

- **control system independently capable of shutdown for Anticipated Transients & some DBAs**
- **two lines of defense for low-frequency DBAs (e.g., LOCA)**
- **three lines of defense for Anticipated Transients (e.g., loss of RCS pumps)**

# SEVERE ACCIDENTS

- some severe accidents part of Canadian design basis, e.g.:
  - LOCA plus failure of containment isolation
  - LOCA plus unavailability of ECC injection
- core melt precluded by moderator

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SEVERE ACCIDENTS - cont'd

- combined failure approach forces redundancy in safety function at system level
  - Group 1 & Group 2 feedwater
  - Group 1 & Group 2 diesels



## SEVERE ACCIDENTS - cont'd

- most demanding initiating event is large LOCA with NO shutdown
- incoherent failure of individual channels due to local overheating
- terminated by moderator void & loss of lattice geometry (SDS3!)

SEVERE ACCIDENTS - cont'd

- design inherently:
  - precludes coherent failure of pressure boundary consequent to unterminated overpower accident
  - does not require fuel movement for shutdown
  - contains a "fuse" which limits the energy generation

## CONCLUSIONS

- as in all reactors, uncompensated reactivity accidents can lead to core damage
- time scale relatively slow in CANDU
- design approach has been to prevent with dual demonstrably reliable shutdown systems
- CANDU "fuse" inherently limits the energy available





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# CANDU PHYSICS

Peter Chan



- Reactivity Coefficients
- Reactivity Perturbations
- Effect of D<sub>2</sub>O on Neutronic Transients



## Reactivity Coefficients

- Fuel Temperature
- Coolant Temperature
- Coolant Void
- Moderator Temperature
- Power



## Definition of Some Terms Used in CANDU Physics

- Reactivity is expressed in milli-k (mk)

$$6 \text{ mk} \approx \$1 \text{ for CANDU 3}$$

- Fuel Irradiation is expressed in n/kb

$$1 \text{ n/kb} \approx 4100 \text{ MWD/tU}$$



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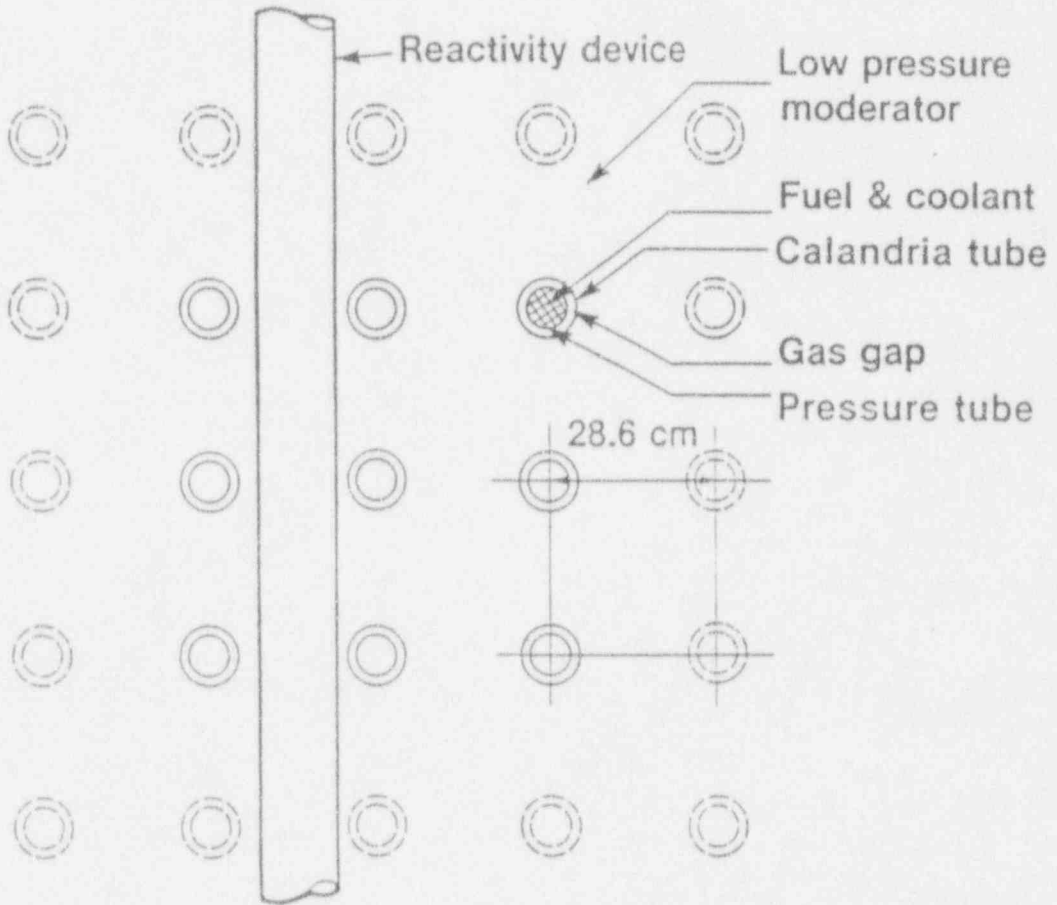
## EFFECT OF D<sub>2</sub>O AND H<sub>2</sub>O ON REACTOR SIZE

|                              | <u>D<sub>2</sub>O</u> | <u>H<sub>2</sub>O</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Migration Length (Core)      | 20 cm.                | 6 cm.                 |
| Migration Length (Reflector) | 100 cm.               | 6.5 cm.               |

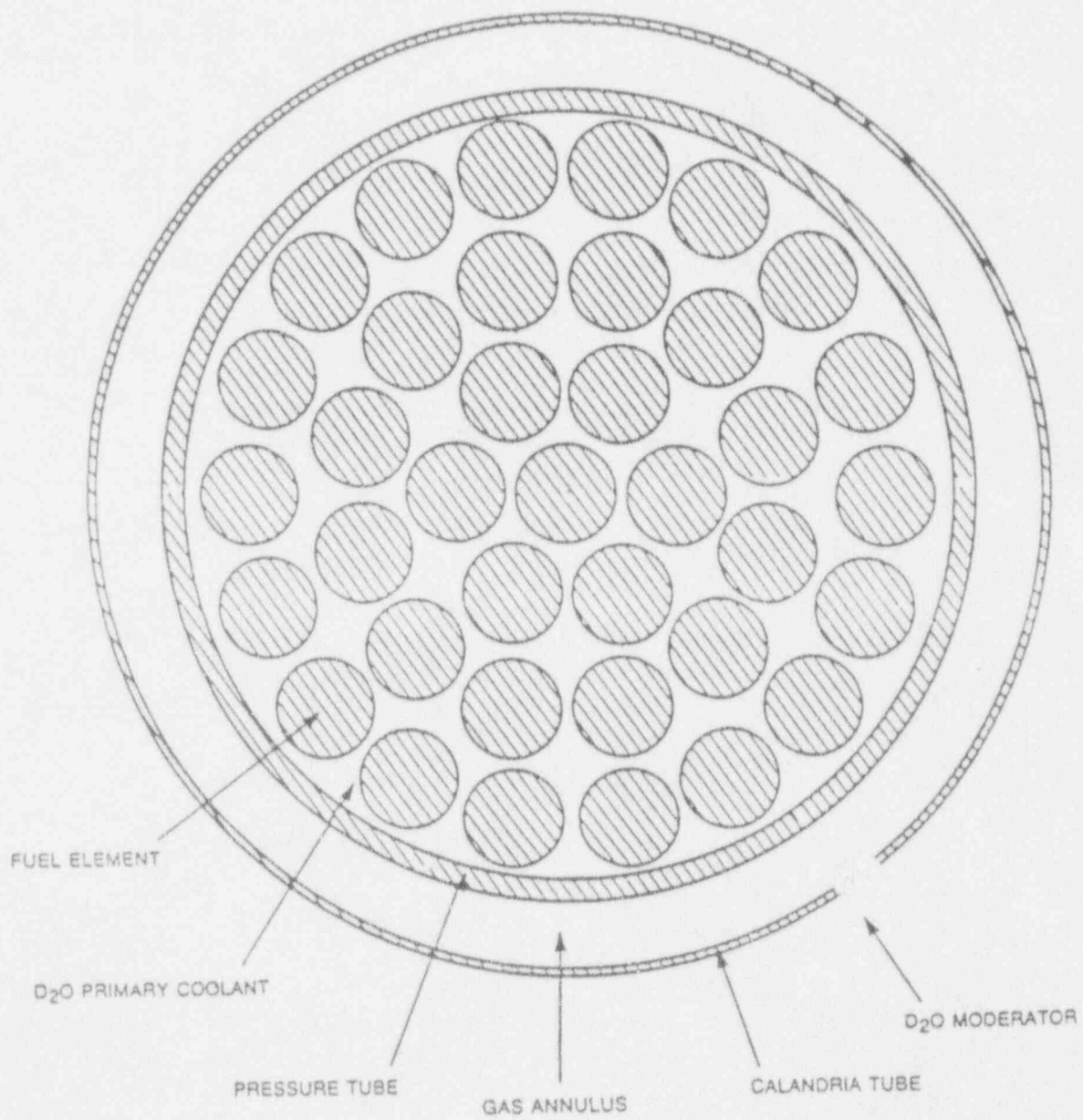


## Effects of Large Migration Length in D<sub>2</sub>O Lattice

- Pressure tube design
- Separation of high temperature and high pressure coolant from low temperature and low pressure moderator
- Reactivity control devices are placed in the moderator environment between fuel channels
- Insensitive to rod ejection and crash cooling scenarios

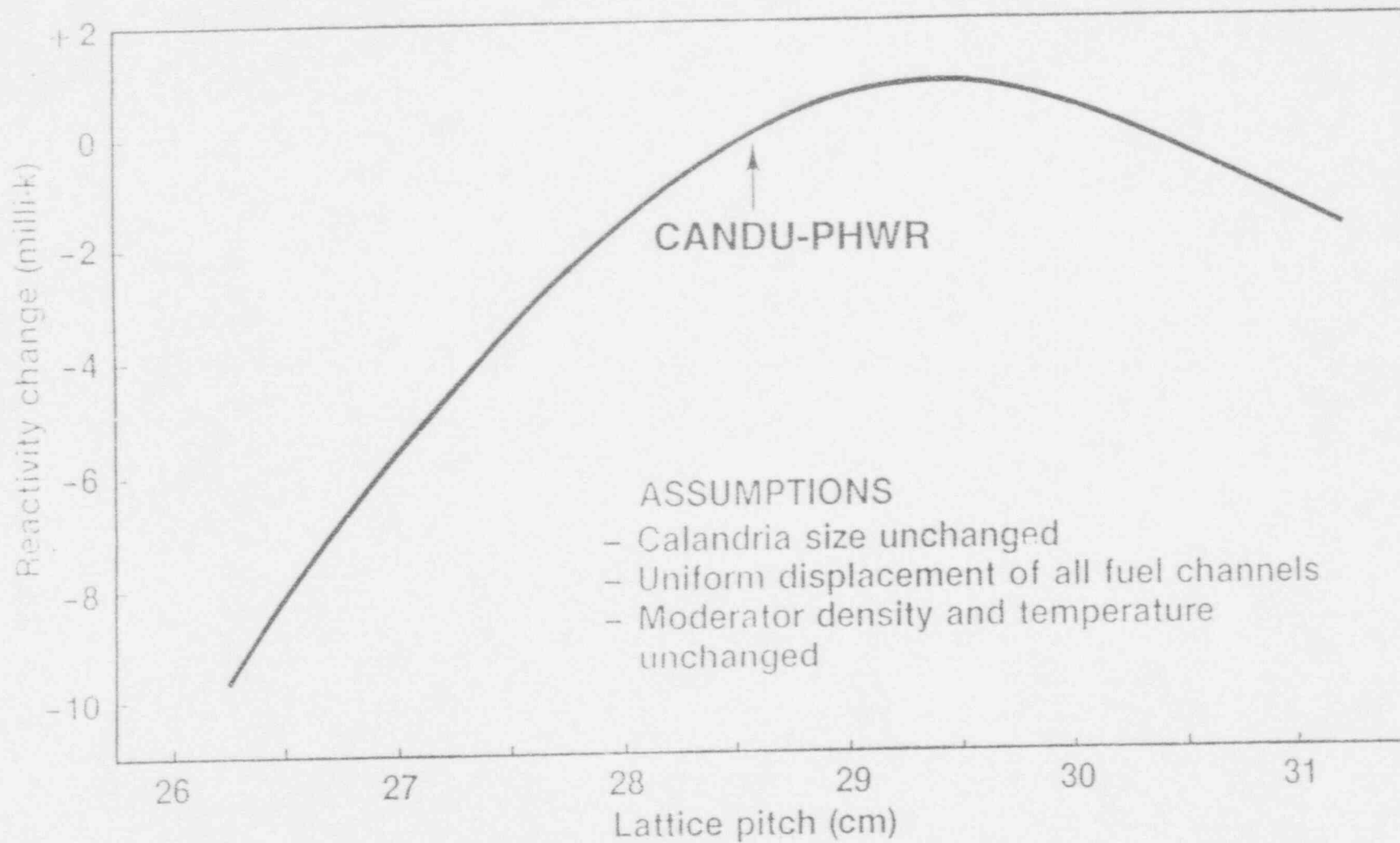


Schematic of CANDU-PHW Lattice



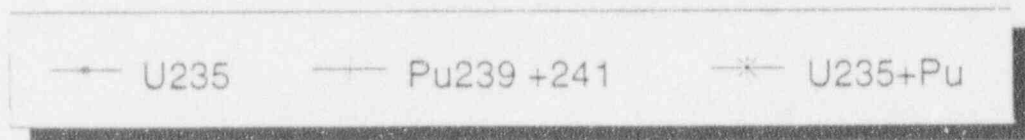
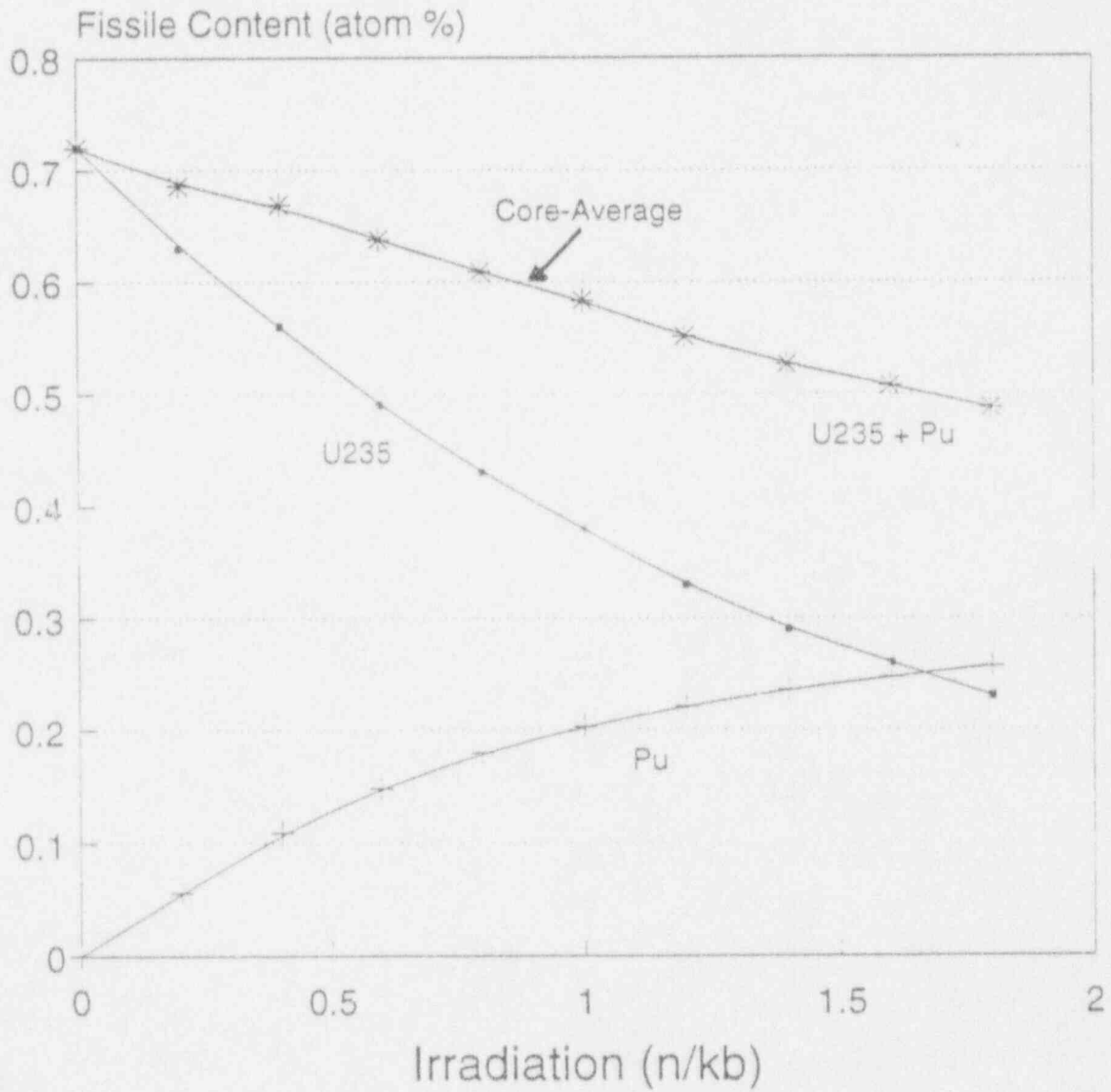
37 Element Fuel Lattice





Variation of Reactivity with Lattice Pitch for CANDU-PHW Lattice

# Fissile Content In CANDU Fuel vs. Irradiation





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EACL CANDU

# FEEDBACK REACTIVITY COEFFICIENTS IN CANDU AND LWR

|                              | CANDU                                   | LWR                               |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Fuel Temperature Coefficient | -4.1 $\mu\text{k}/^\circ\text{C}$       | -18 $\mu\text{k}/^\circ\text{C}$  |
| Coolant Temperature    "     | +37.5 $\mu\text{k}/^\circ\text{C}$      |                                   |
| Coolant Void            "    | +12.7 $\text{mk}/(\text{gm}/\text{cc})$ |                                   |
| Moderator Temperature "      | +100 $\mu\text{k}/^\circ\text{C}^*$     | -630 $\mu\text{k}/^\circ\text{C}$ |

\* Insensitive to crash cooling



AECL

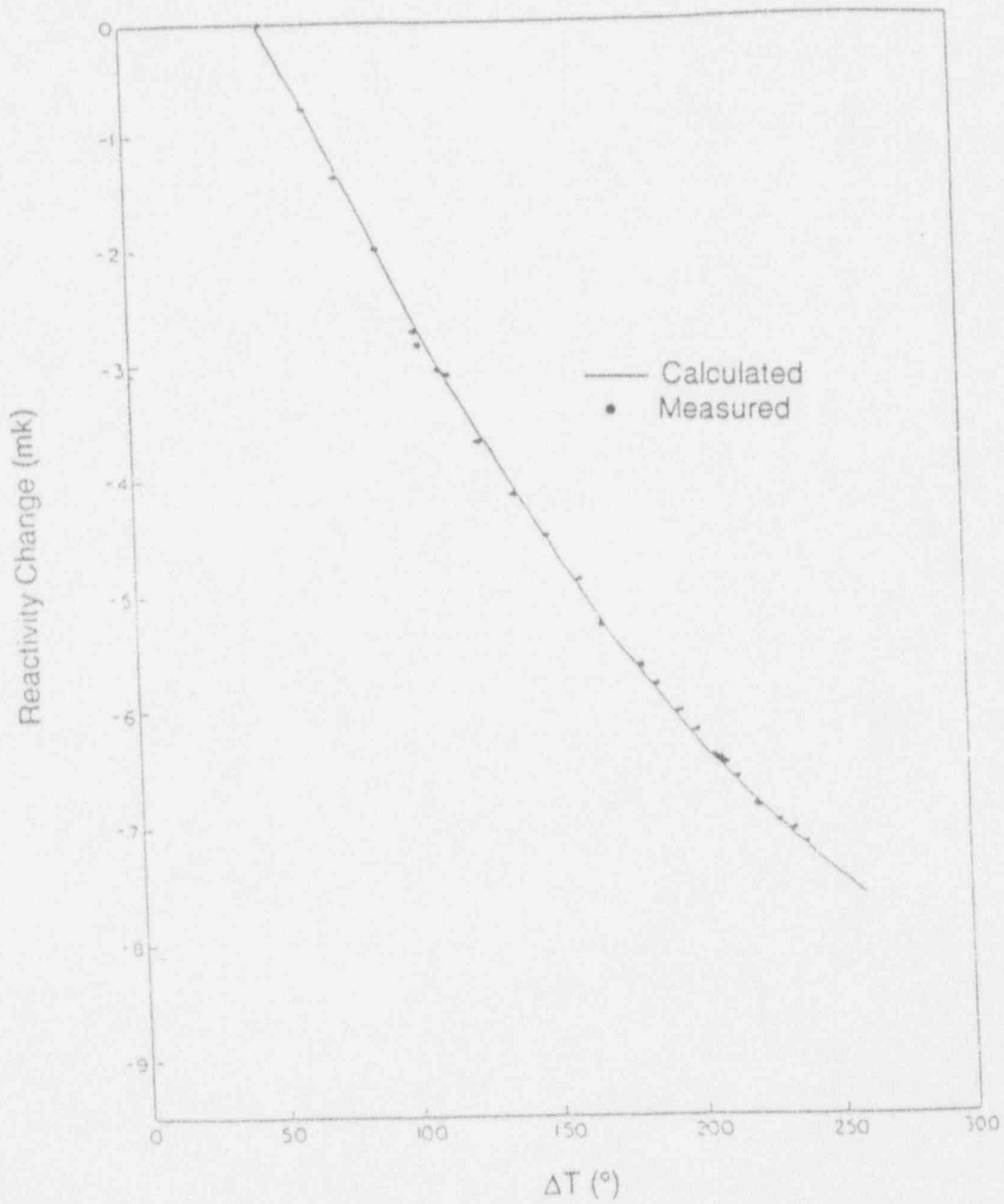
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AECL CANDU

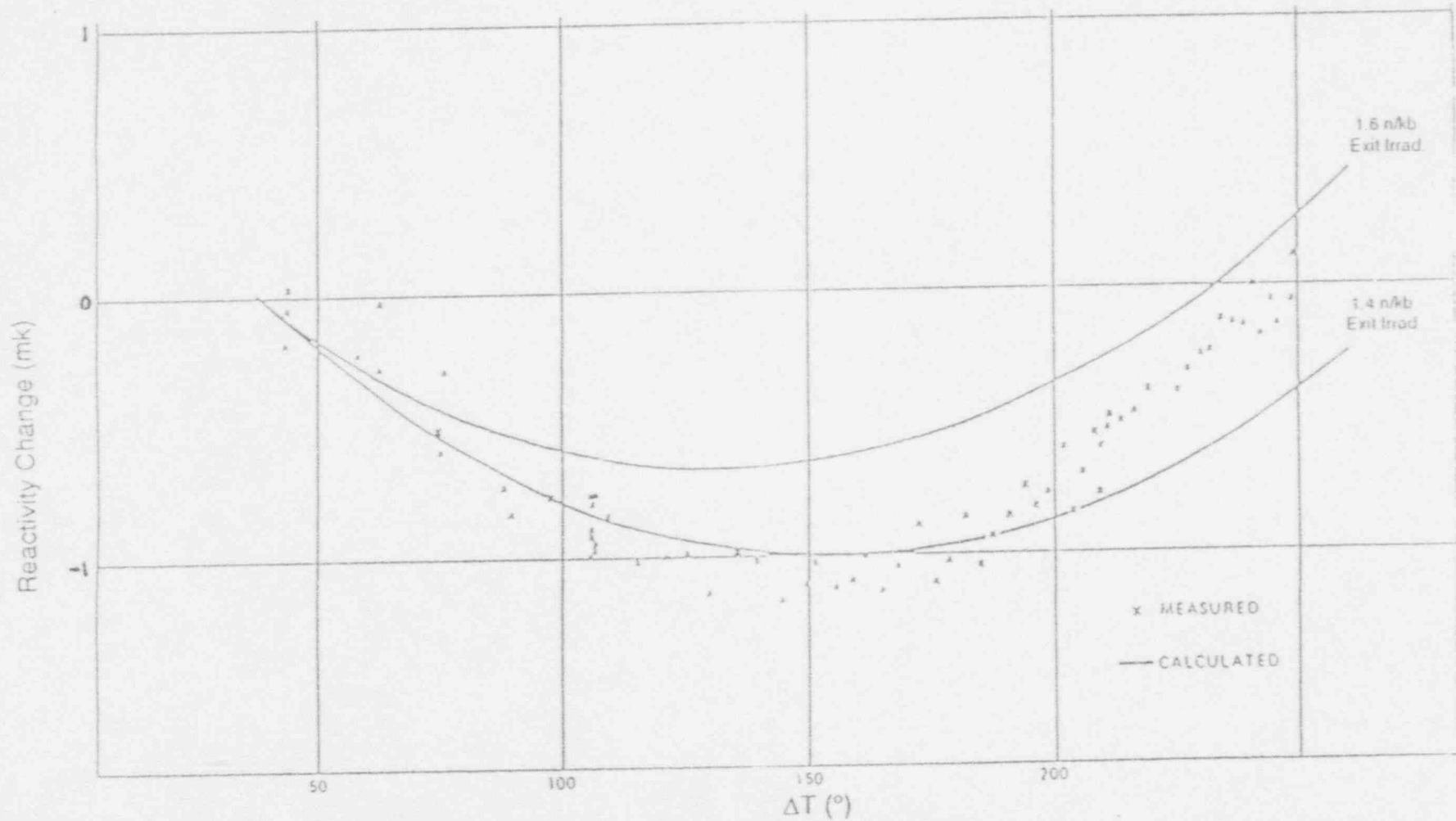
EACL CANDU

## POWER COEFFICIENT

- Negative Fuel Temperature Feedback
- Positive Coolant Temperature (density) Feedback
- Redistribution of Flux/Power Shapes
- Change In Leakage Due to Change in Flux Shape
- Near Zero Under Nominal Conditions
- Supported by Measurements In Operating Stations



Bruce-A Unit 2 Initial Startup, Measured and Calculated Reactivity Change Due to Heat Transport System Temperature Change

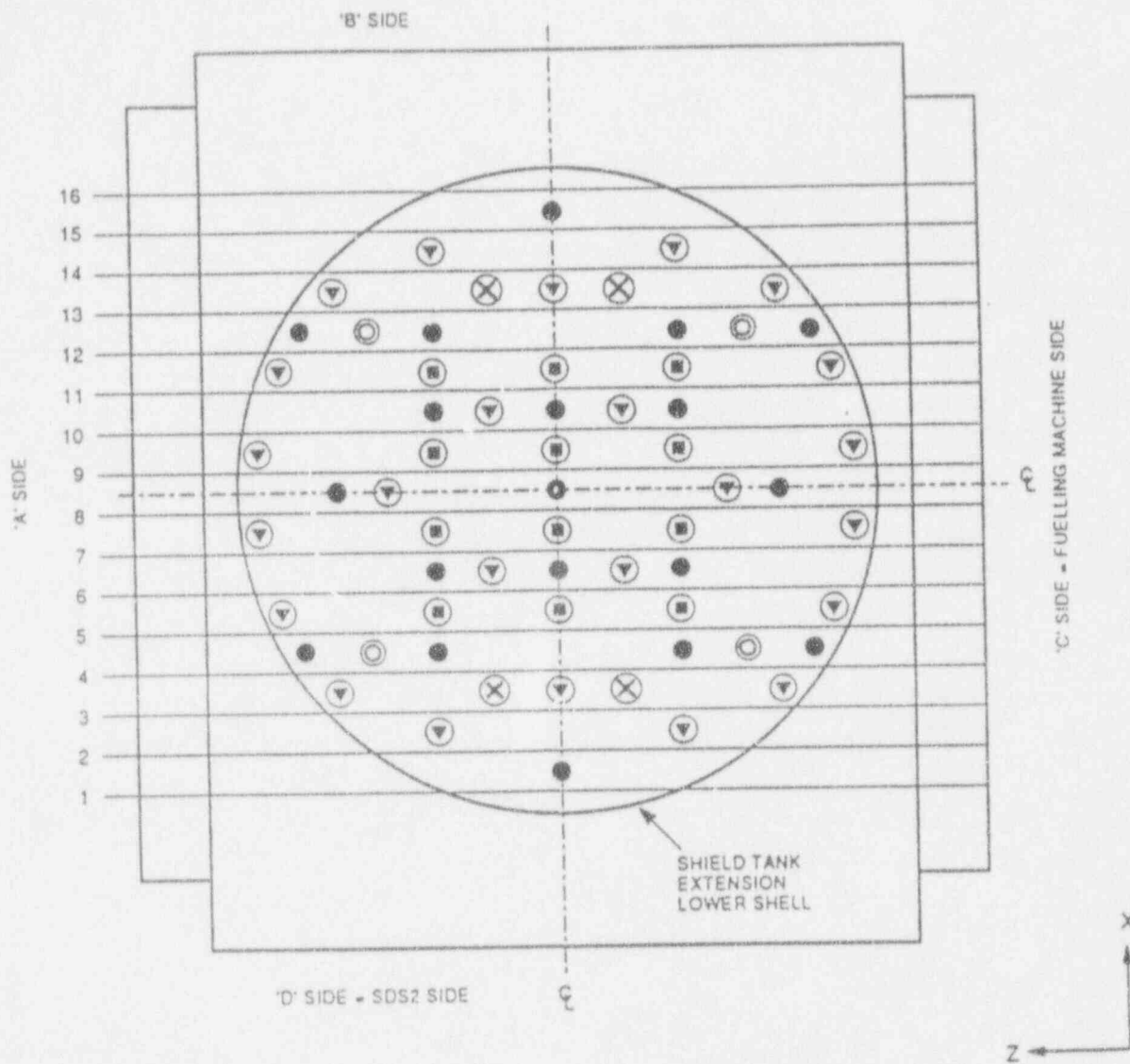


Comparison of Measured and Calculated Reactivity Changes Due to Fuel and Coolant Temperature in Pickering 'A', Unit 4 (Irradiated Fuel)



## Reactivity Perturbations

- Reactivity Devices
- On-Power Fuelling
- Spatial Control and Xenon Effects



- |   |                                       |   |                                   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| ⊙ | MECHANICAL ZONE CONTROL (MZC) (4)     | ⊠ | ADJUSTER (ADJ) (12)               |
| ⊗ | MECHANICAL CONTROL ABSORBER (MCA) (4) | ● | VERTICAL FLUX DETECTOR (VFD) (19) |
| ▽ | MECHANICAL SHUTDOWN ROD (SDR) (24)    |   |                                   |

General Arrangement of Reactivity Control Devices





AECL EACL

AECL CANDU

EACL CANDU

## REACTIVITY DEVICES, WORTHS AND MAXIMUM RATES

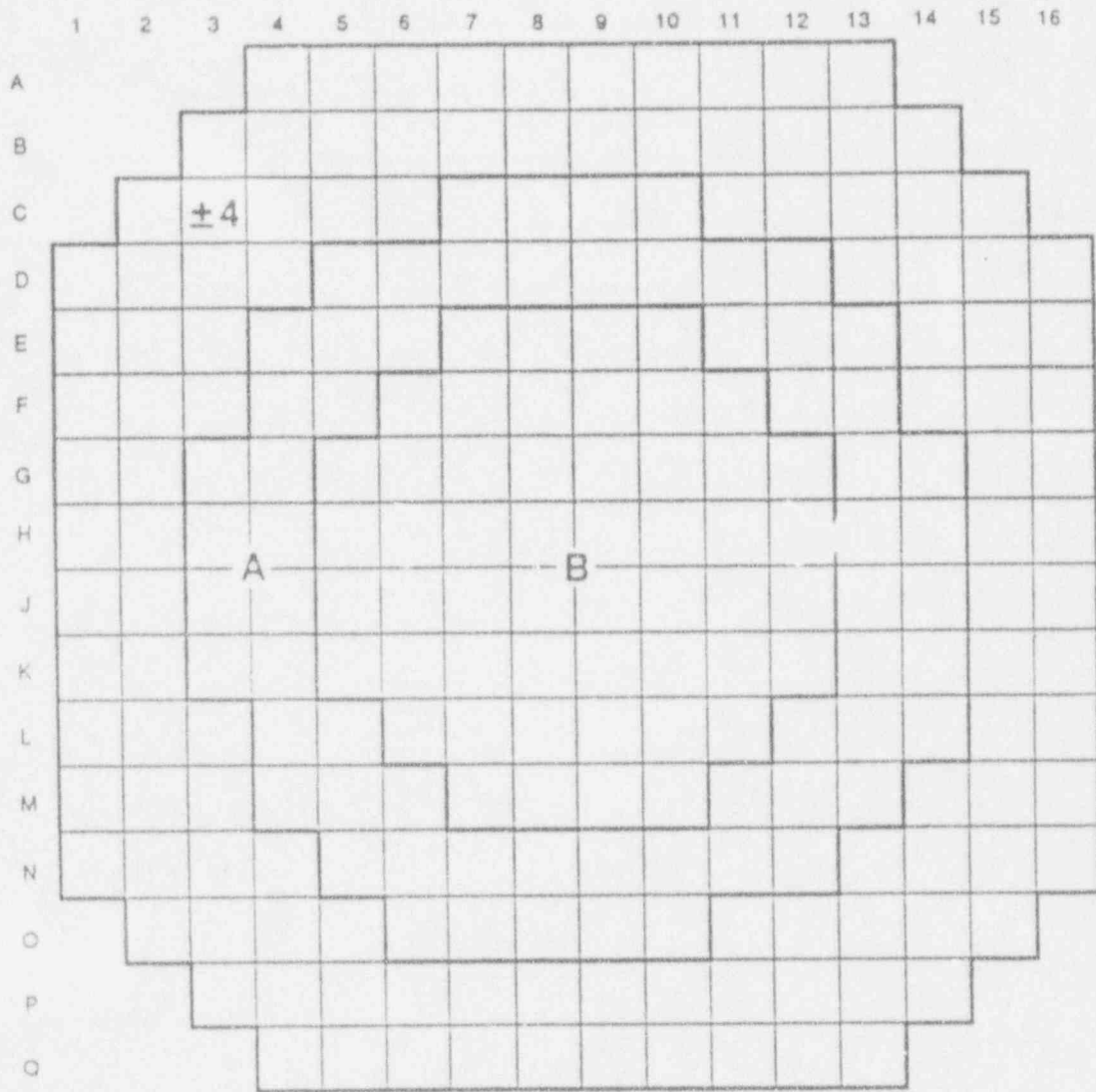
| Function | Device                         | Total Reactivity Worth (mk) | Maximum Reactivity Rate (mk/s)             |
|----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Control  | 8 Mech. Zone Controllers       | 5                           | $\pm 0.12$                                 |
| Control  | 12 Adjuster Rods               | 12                          | $\pm 0.08$                                 |
| Control  | 4 Mechanical Control Absorbers | 10                          | $\pm 0.075$ (driving)<br>$-3.5$ (dropping) |
| Control  | Moderator Poison               | -                           | $-0.01$ (adding)<br>$+0.001$ (extracting)  |
| Safety   | 24 Shutoff Rods                | -94                         | -50  |
| Safety   | 6 Poison Injection nozzles     | -200                        | -50  |



## General Features of On-Power Fuelling

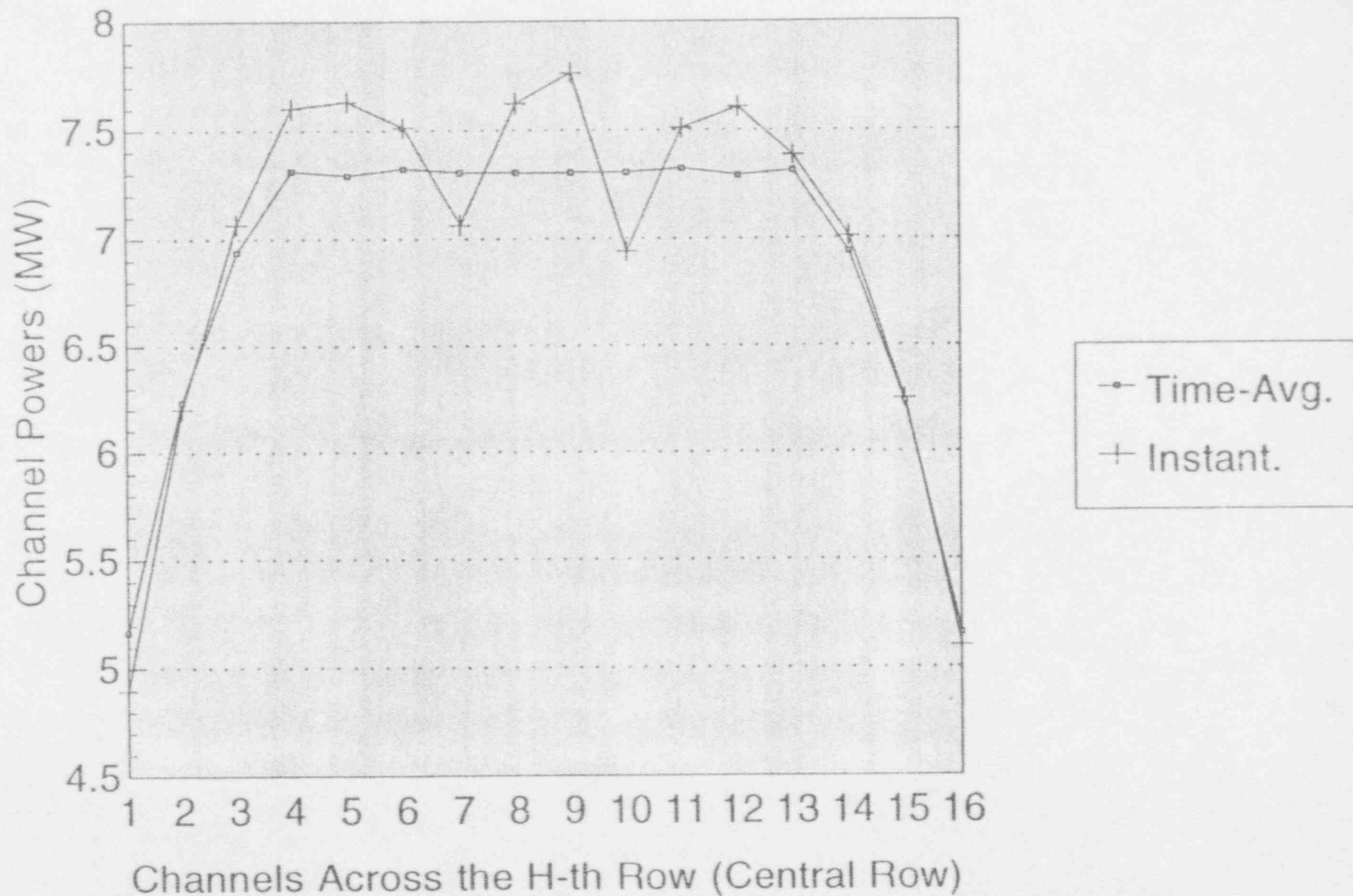
- Global power distribution is predictable
- Local deviations from the global power shape is small
- Small built-in excess reactivity
- Small reactivity perturbations



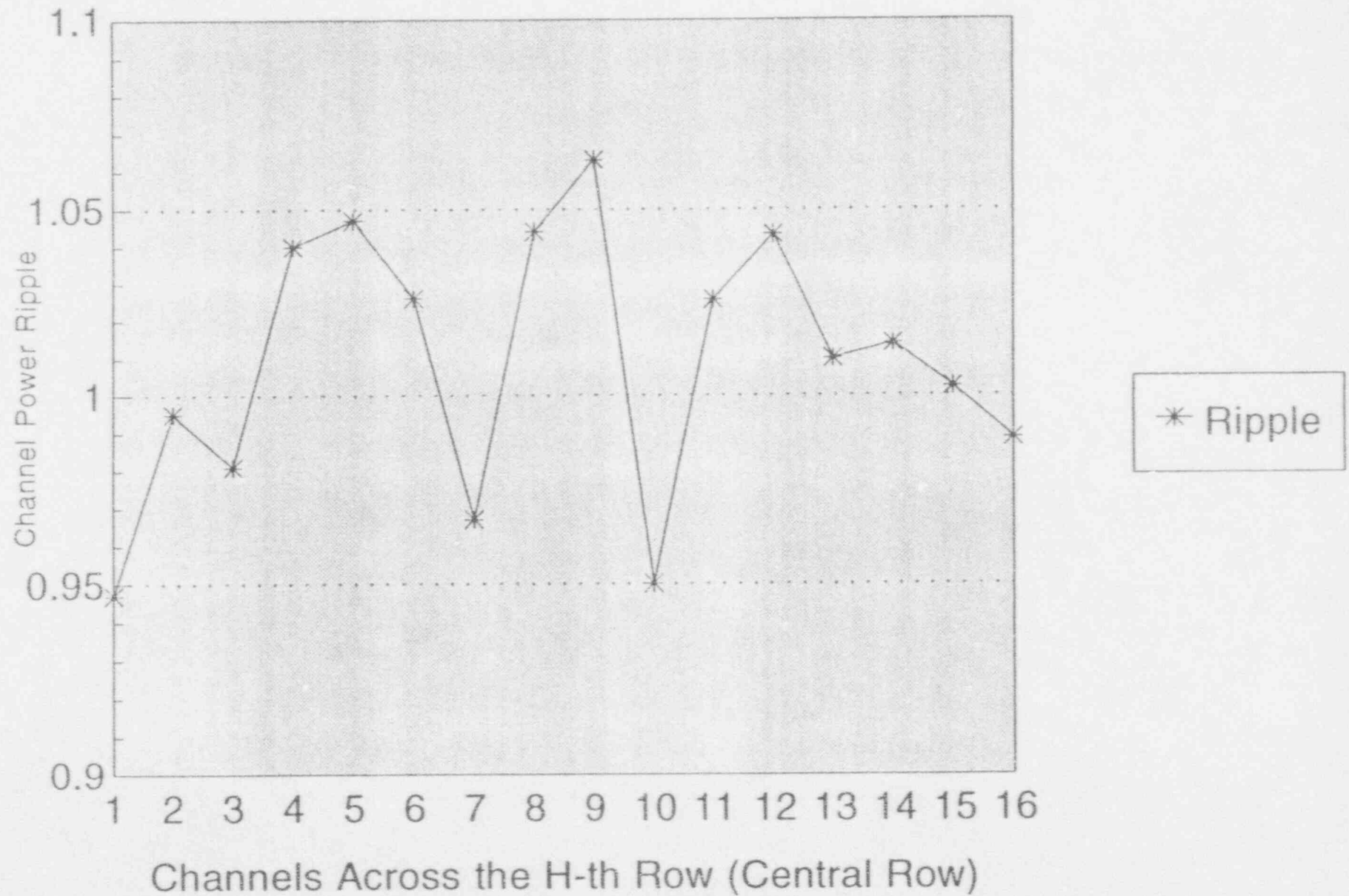


Refuelling Zones and Schemes

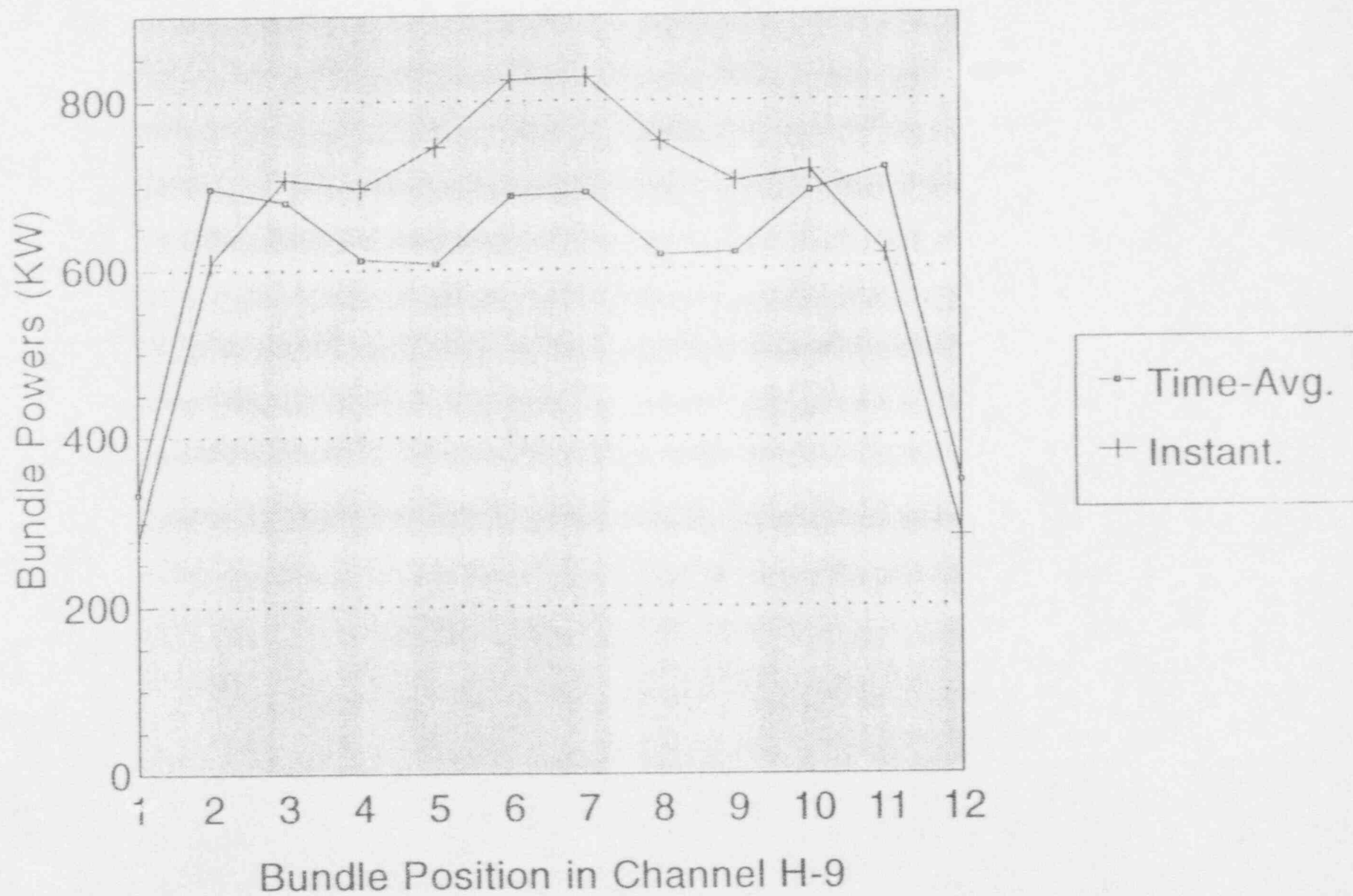
# Radial Power Distribution in CANDU 3



# Channel Power Ripples in CANDU 3



# Bundle Power Distribution in CANDU 3



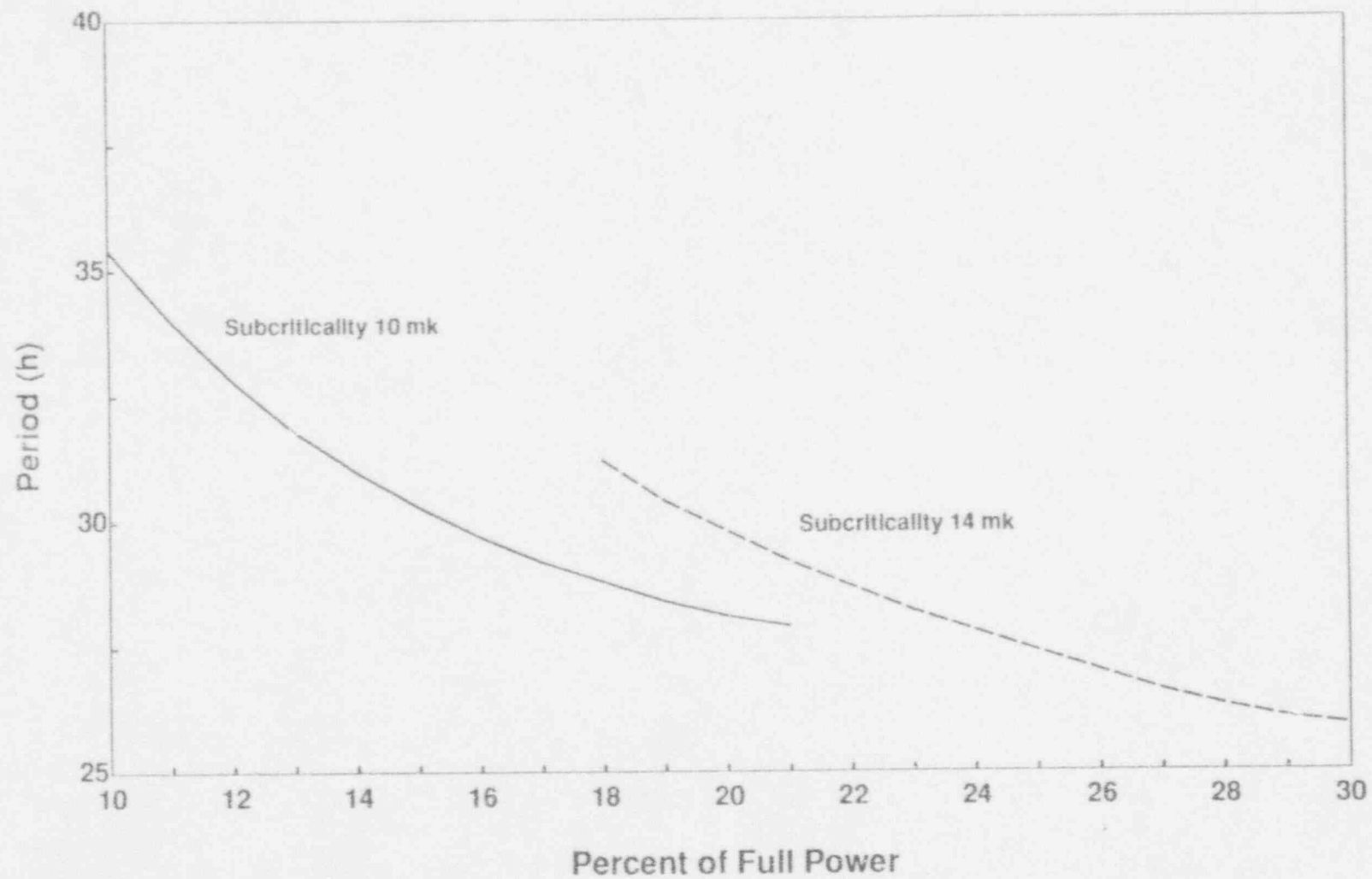


## Xenon Effects

- Caused by power perturbations
- Most likely modes of xenon-induced power oscillations are:
  - First azimuthal (top to bottom)
  - First axial (front to back)
- Period of oscillation is in excess of 24 hours



Period of Xenon Oscillation vs. Reactor Power

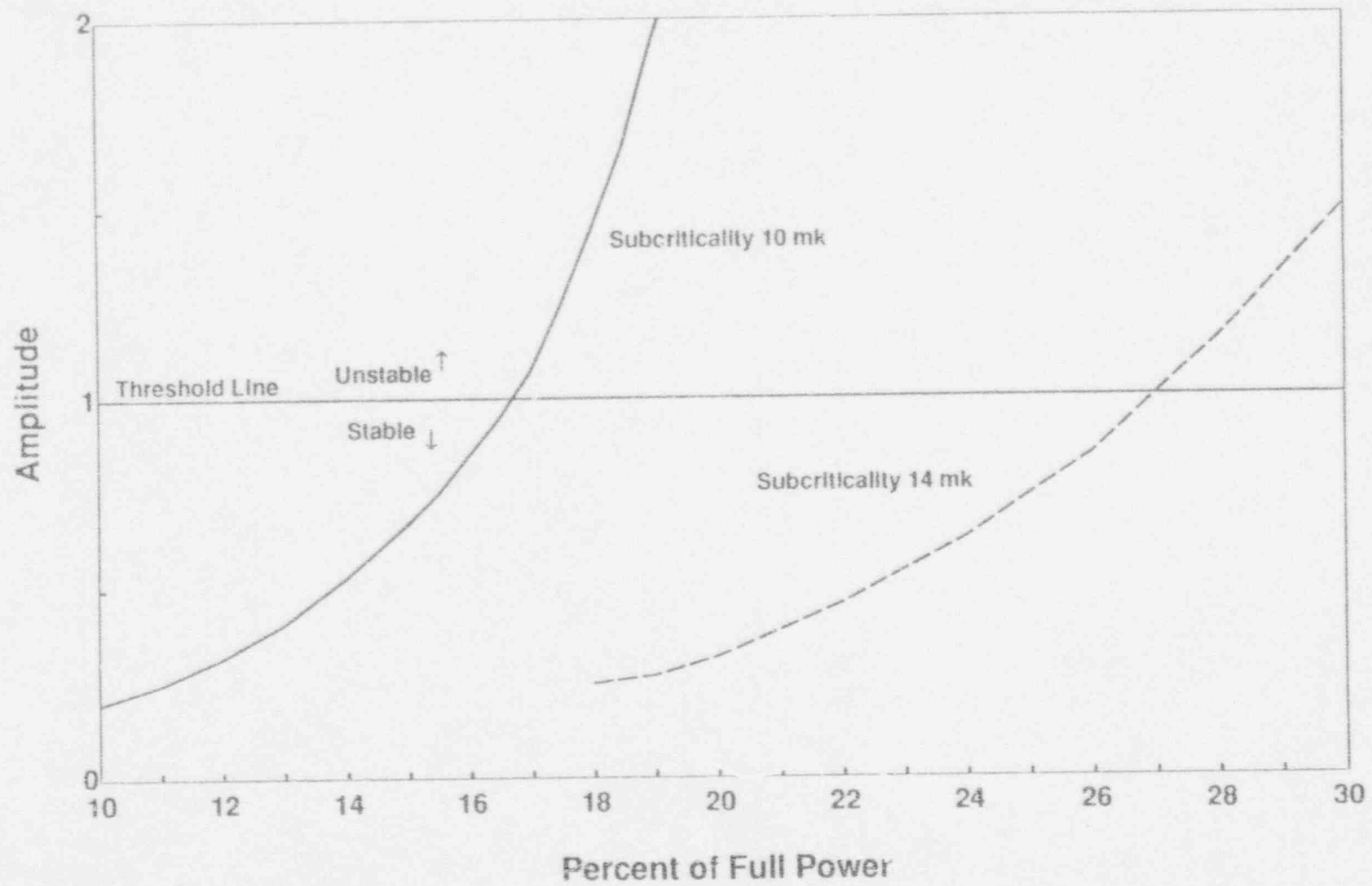


**AECL****EACL****AECL CANDU****EACL CANDU**

Effect of Reactor Size on Subcriticality (mk) of  
Harmonic Flux Modes

| Harmonic Mode   | CANDU 3 | CANDU 6 | Bruce B |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| First Azimuthal | -35     | -16     | -13     |
| First Axial     | -24     | -24     | -26     |

Amplitude of Xenon Oscillation vs. Reactor Power





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# EFFECT OF D<sub>2</sub>O ON NEUTRONIC TRANSIENTS

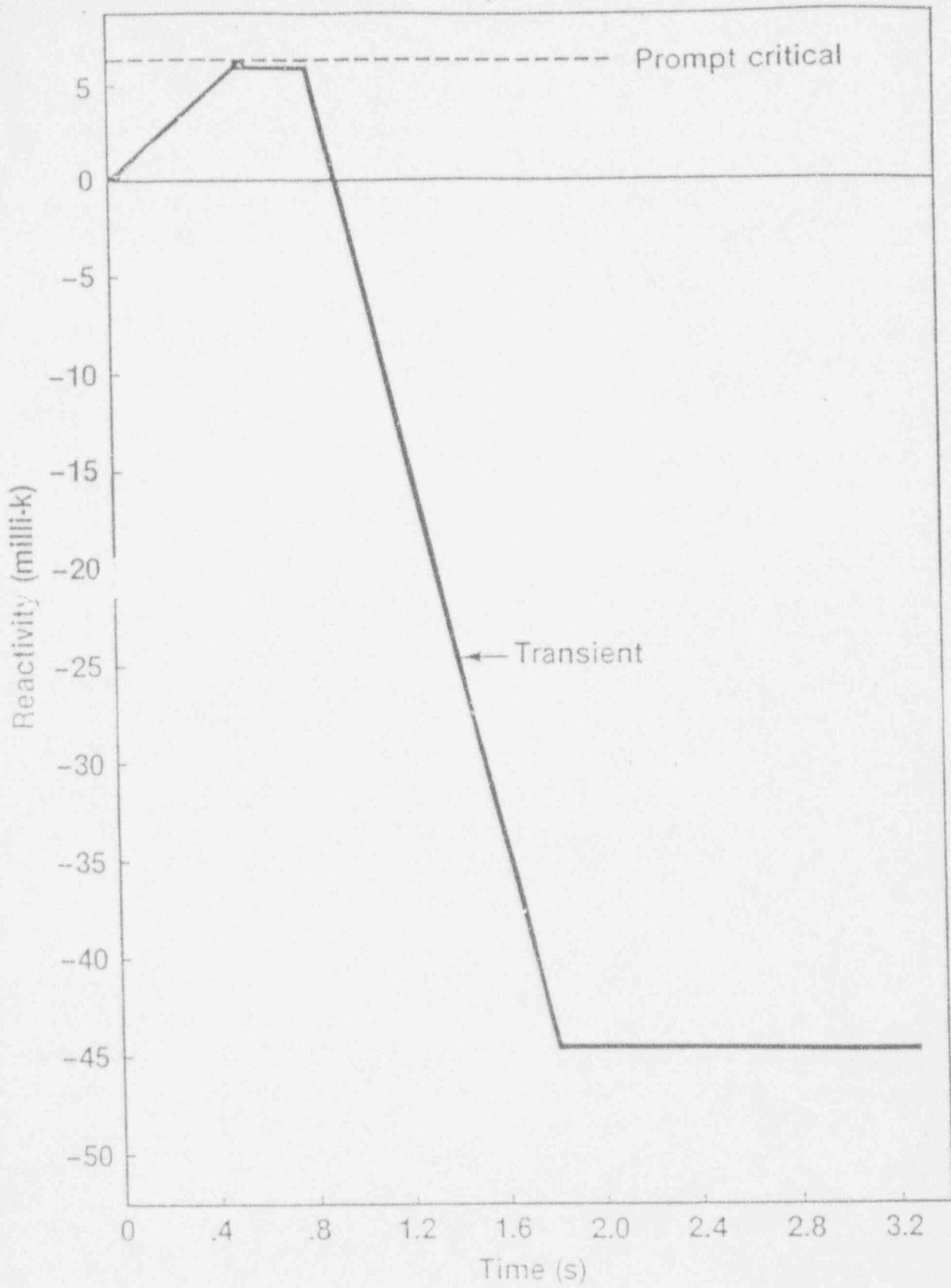
- Long Neutron Lifetime :
  - 0.9 ms for D<sub>2</sub>O Lattice
  - vs. 0.03 ms for H<sub>2</sub>O Lattice
- Large Delayed Neutron Fraction (beta)
  - 0.8 mk from Photo-neutrons in D<sub>2</sub>O
- Retardation of Neutronic Growth During Transient



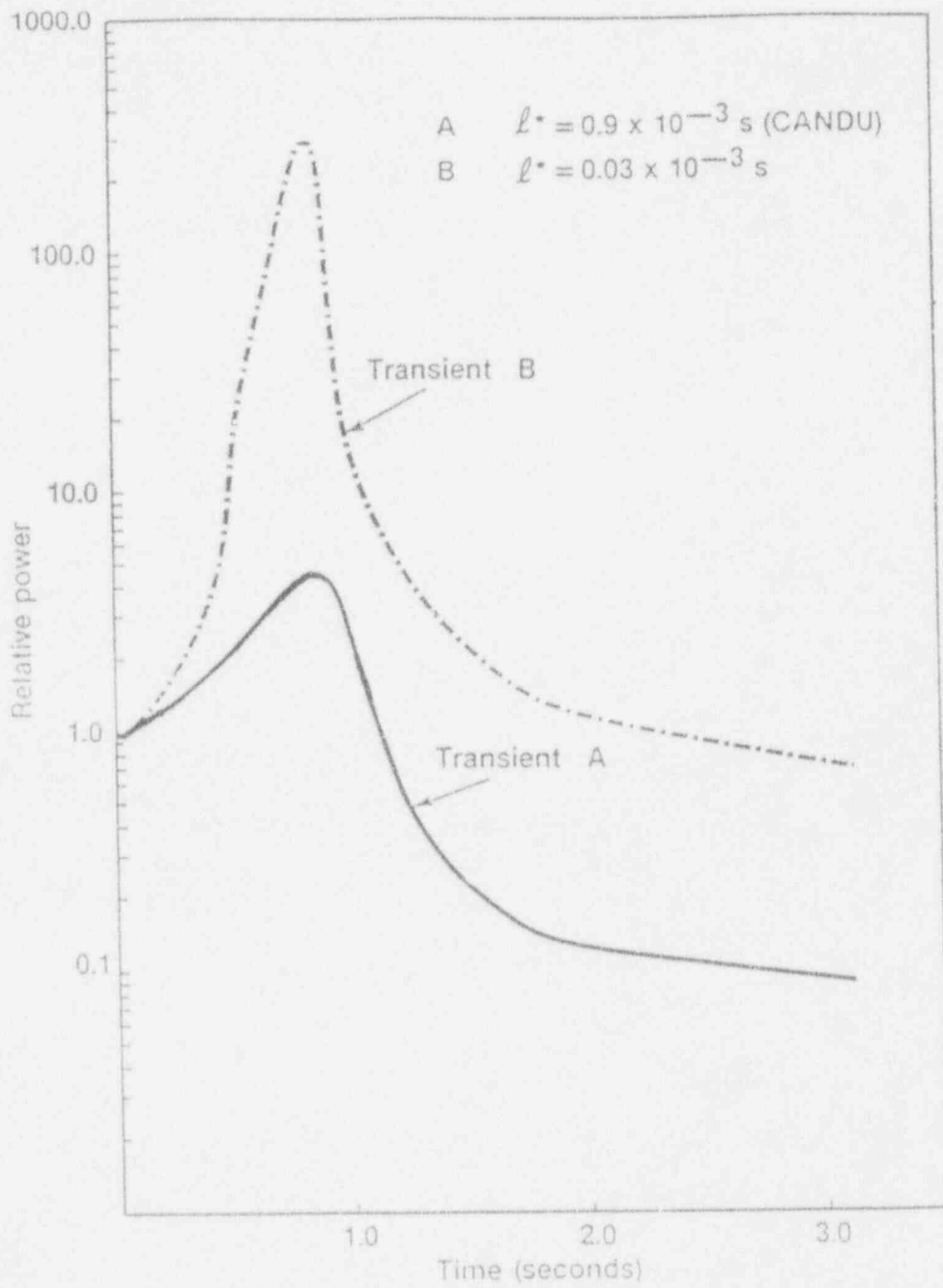
# DELAYED NEUTRON DATA FOR EQUILIBRIUM FUEL

| Group        | Delayed Neutron Fraction<br>$\beta$ | Time Constant<br>$\times (s^{-1})$ |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1            | 0.00030                             | 0.001                              |
| 2            | 0.00120                             | 0.032                              |
| 3            | 0.00107                             | 0.121                              |
| 4            | 0.00244                             | 0.317                              |
| 5            | 0.00081                             | 1.390                              |
| 6            | 0.00020                             | 3.803                              |
| <b>Total</b> | 0.00603                             |                                    |

Prompt neutron lifetime:  $9.6 \times 10^{-4}$  s



HYPOTHETICAL REACTIVITY EXCURSIONS



Sensitivity of Power Excursion to  $\ell^*$



## Summary

- Good neutron economy
- Efficient conversion of U238 to plutonium
- Small change in fissile content over fuel life
- Small change in lattice properties over fuel life
- Small excess reactivity due to on-power fuelling
- Predictable global flux and power shapes
- All reactivity perturbations, except LOCA, are small and can be easily controlled by the regulating system
- LOCA can be terminated by either one of the two independent shutdown systems
- Long neutron lifetime of D<sub>2</sub>O lattice retards neutronic growth during transient



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# CANDU 3 SHUTDOWN SYSTEMS

by

Norman M. Ichiyen



# ***OUTLINE***

- **Historical perspective**
  - Early lessons learned
  - Historical development of SDS concepts
- **Description of 2 SDSs**
  - Overview
  - Basic requirements
- **Use of computers for SDSs**
- **Conclusions**



## ***LESSONS LEARNED***

- **NRX Incident (1952) set the basic requirements for a shutdown system**
- **Background:**
  - low power experiment to measure burnup
  - 12 control and shutdown rods (dual functionality)
  - 6 SORs to remain in the core (part of experiment)
  - history of SOR malfunctions and spurious trips



## ***COURSE OF THE ACCIDENT***

- **Errors made during adjustments to 6 SOR air supply**
  - resulted in SORs rising out of the core
- **Operator closed bypass valves - but rods did not go all the way in**
- **Operator mistakenly caused safeguard bank to drive out**
- **Extensive damage**
  - fuel melting in 22 places
  - hydrogen burn postulated



## ***LESSONS LEARNED***

- Fast shutdown capacity should always be available (SDS poised)
- Shutdown must be independent of control arrangements
- SDS must be reliable (simple) but not over-sensitive to the extent that it frustrates operators



## ***SDS POISED***

- Counter-intuitive - contemporary thinking that reactor safest with all possible neutron absorbing material in core
- “... in any operation it is possible that the reactivity of the pile will be changed .. In the normal shutdown state if all the shutoff rods are in, then the monitoring instruments have no control and cannot guard against the unintended reactivity changes.” [Lewis, 1953]
- Implies requirement for rapid withdrawal and repositing of SOR after trip



# ***INDEPENDENCE***

- Reactivity control must be absolutely separated from shutdown provisions
- At NRX seven out of twelve SORs had been converted to act as "control" elements
- SDS must protect against control system failure



## ***RELIABILITY OF SDS ELEMENTS***

- **Simplification of SOR insertion mechanism to spring-assisted gravity drop (1956)**
- **Triplicated shutdown circuits**
  - increased reliability of instrumentation
  - decreased systems' sensitivity to spurious actuation
- **Regular on-line testing of SDS**





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# ***HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF SDS CONCEPTS***

- **2 SDS**

- serious process failure frequency  $10^{-1}$  to  $10^{-3}$
- classification of systems into process or special safety systems
- no significant release following failure of a process system combined with a failure of a SSS
- all above led to concept of 2 independent SDSs
- requires each SDS to fully meet the requirements for any serious failure
  - » requires the SDSs be independent in design and operation and free from any operational connection with any of the process systems including the Regulating System



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# ***HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF SDS CONCEPTS***

- **Impact on licensing**
  - "For those plant designs incorporating two independent reactor protective shutdown systems of suitable design amongst the special safety systems, it is accepted that at least one of them will operate as designed when protective shutdown action is required".
  - "Each system must be capable of limiting both the rate of energy production and the total energy production to the extent that the integrity of the containment system is not jeopardized".



---

# ***HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF SDS CONCEPTS***

- **2 trip parameters rule**
  - "Where practicable, two diverse trip parameters shall be incorporated into the sensing and control logic of each protective shutdown system for each of the serious process failures requiring shutdown action. Manual action is creditable if adequate information and time are available".
  - Rationale: unforeseen circumstances, efficacy of the analysis; hence another layer of protection was added



## ***DESIGN REQUIREMENTS***

- 2 SDSs
- Separation and independence requirements
- Actuation instrumentation requirements (2 trip parameters)
- Availability requirements
- Testing requirements
- Status monitoring requirements



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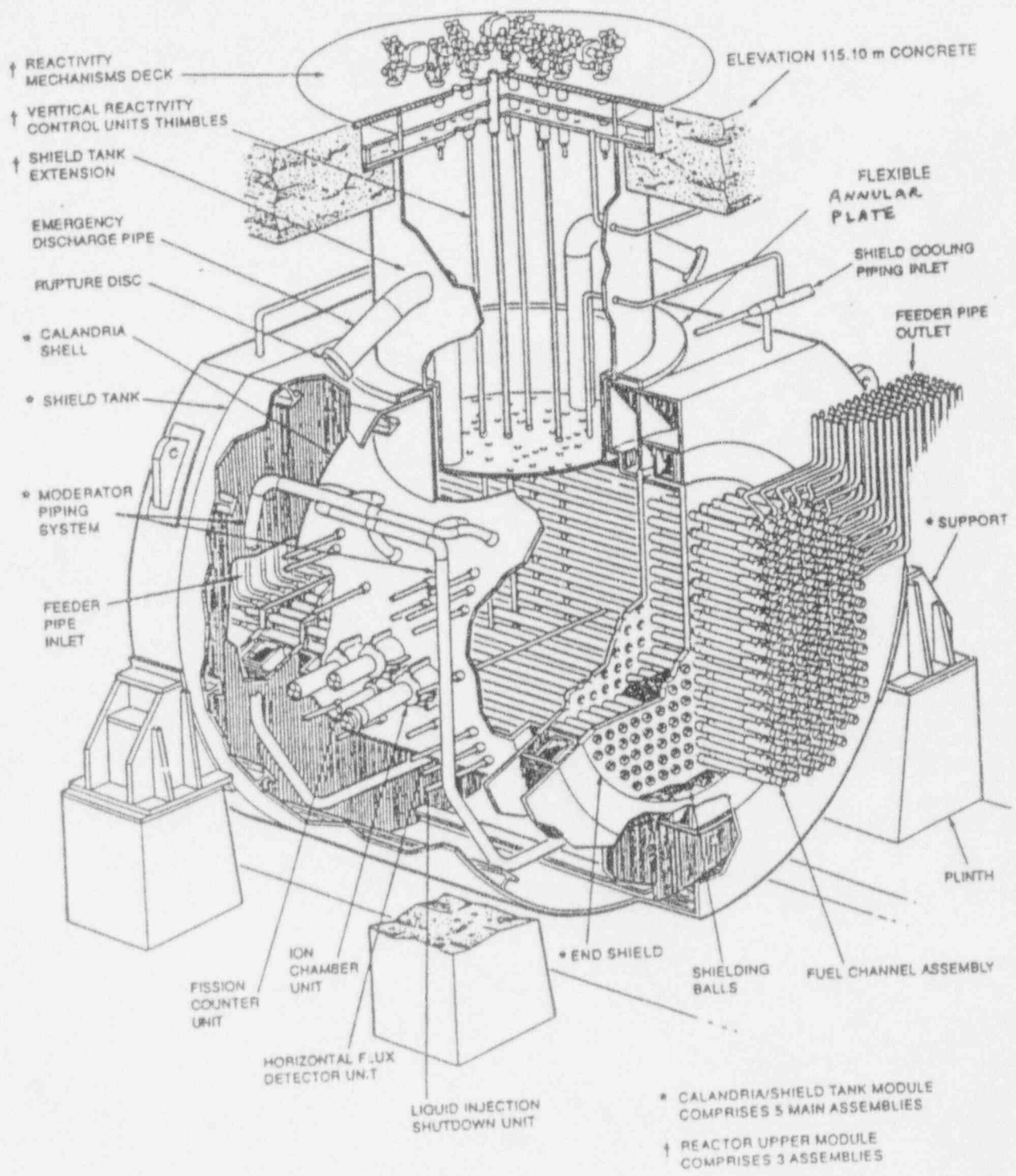
# DESCRIPTION OF 2 SDSS



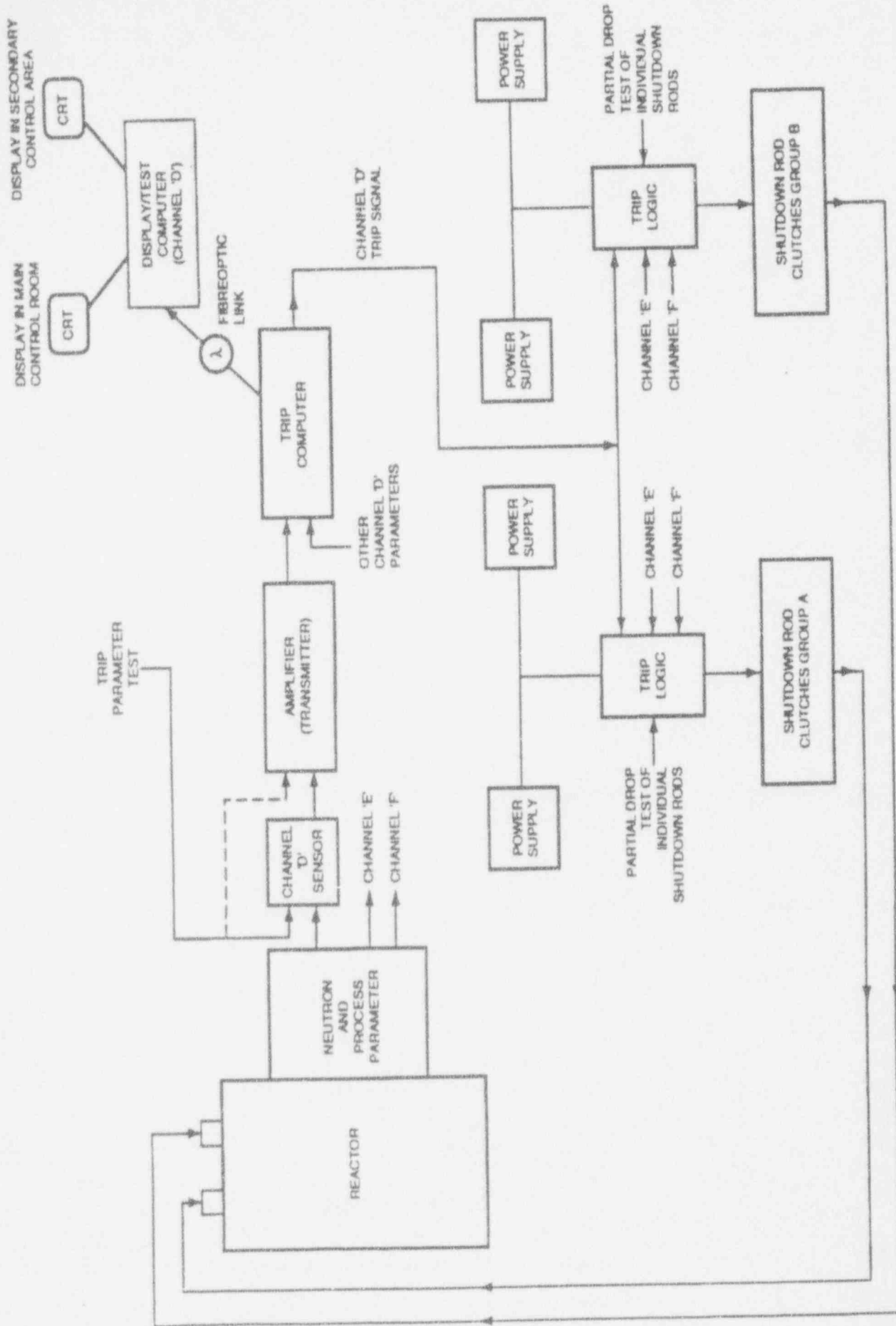
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# SDS1 CONCEPT

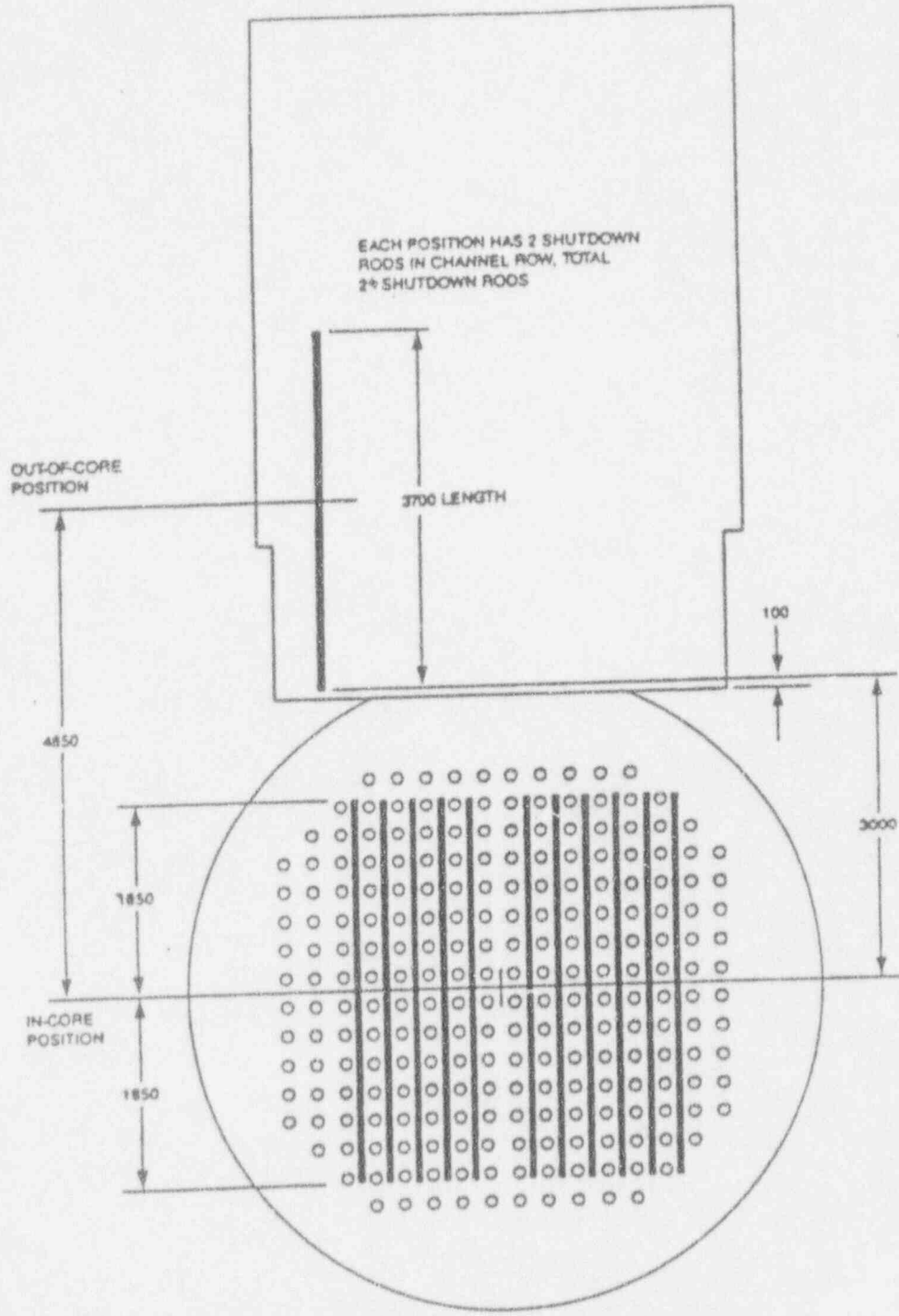


REACTOR ASSEMBLY



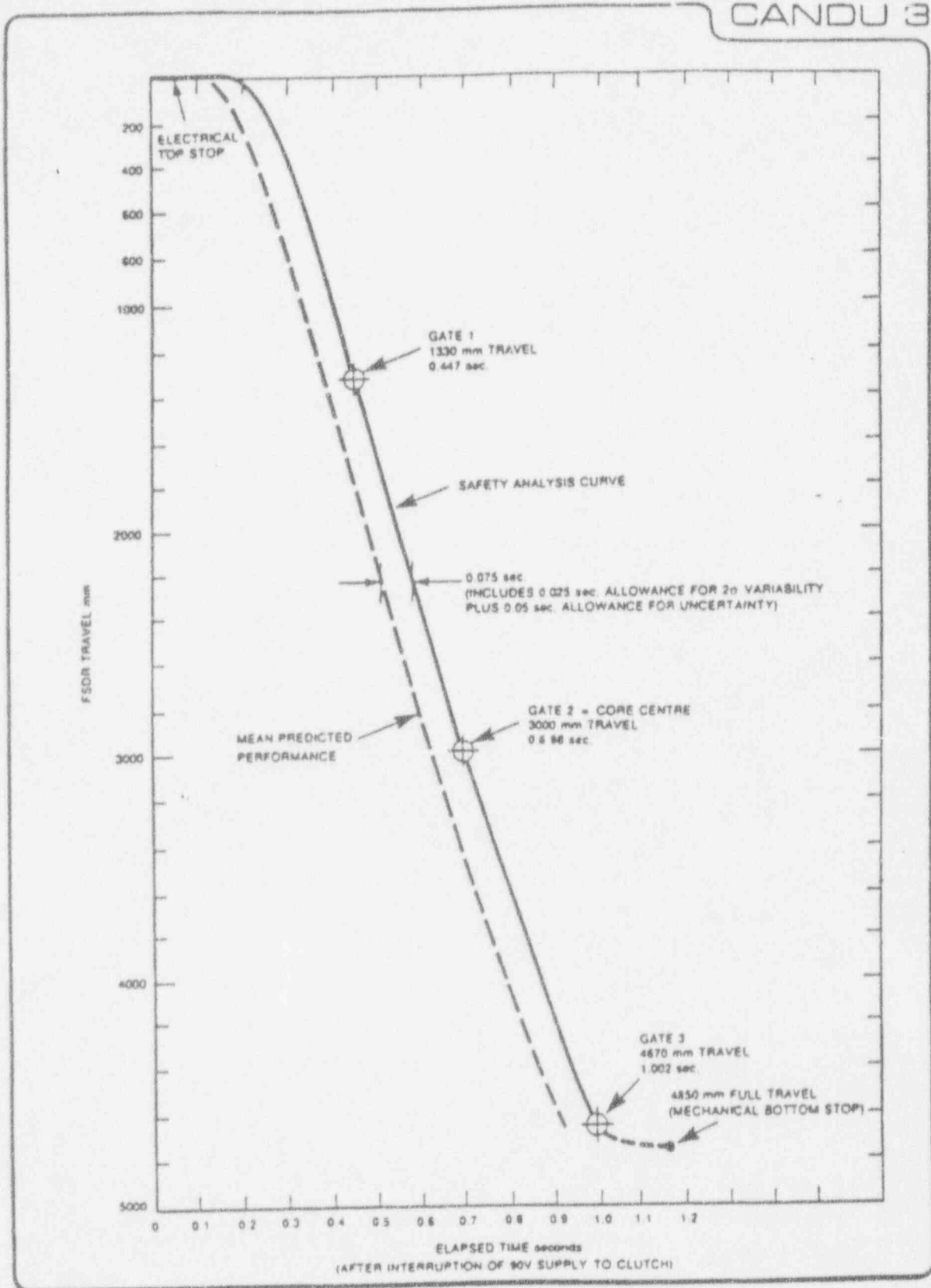
SHUTDOWN SYSTEM NO. 1 - BLOCK DIAGRAM





INSERTION — BY SPRING AND GRAVITY  
TIME FOR WITHDRAWAL AT 60 Hz — 102s ± 12s

SHUTDOWN RODS (SDR)



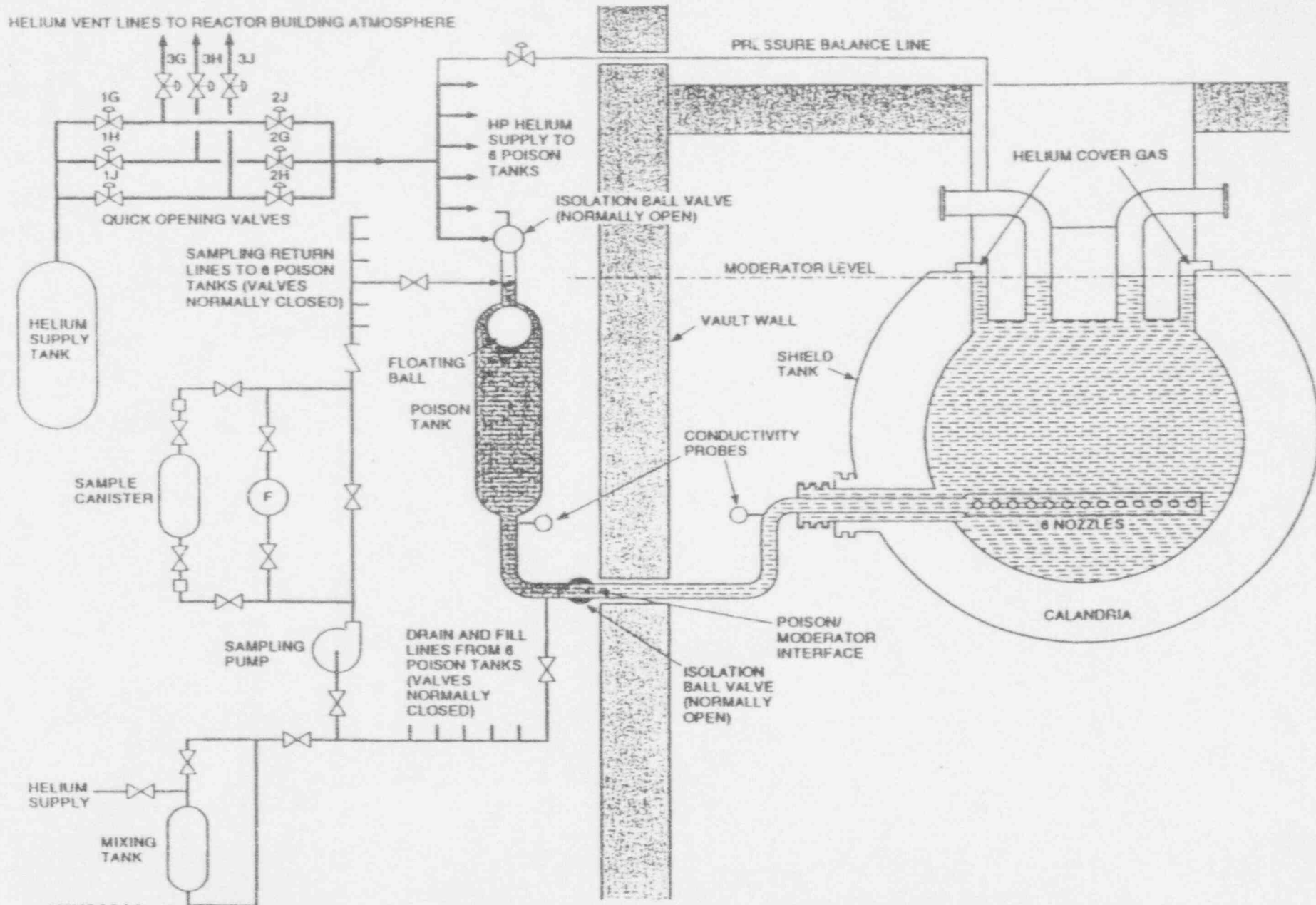
CANDU 3 FAST SHUTDOWN ROD (FSDR)  
INSERTION PERFORMANCE



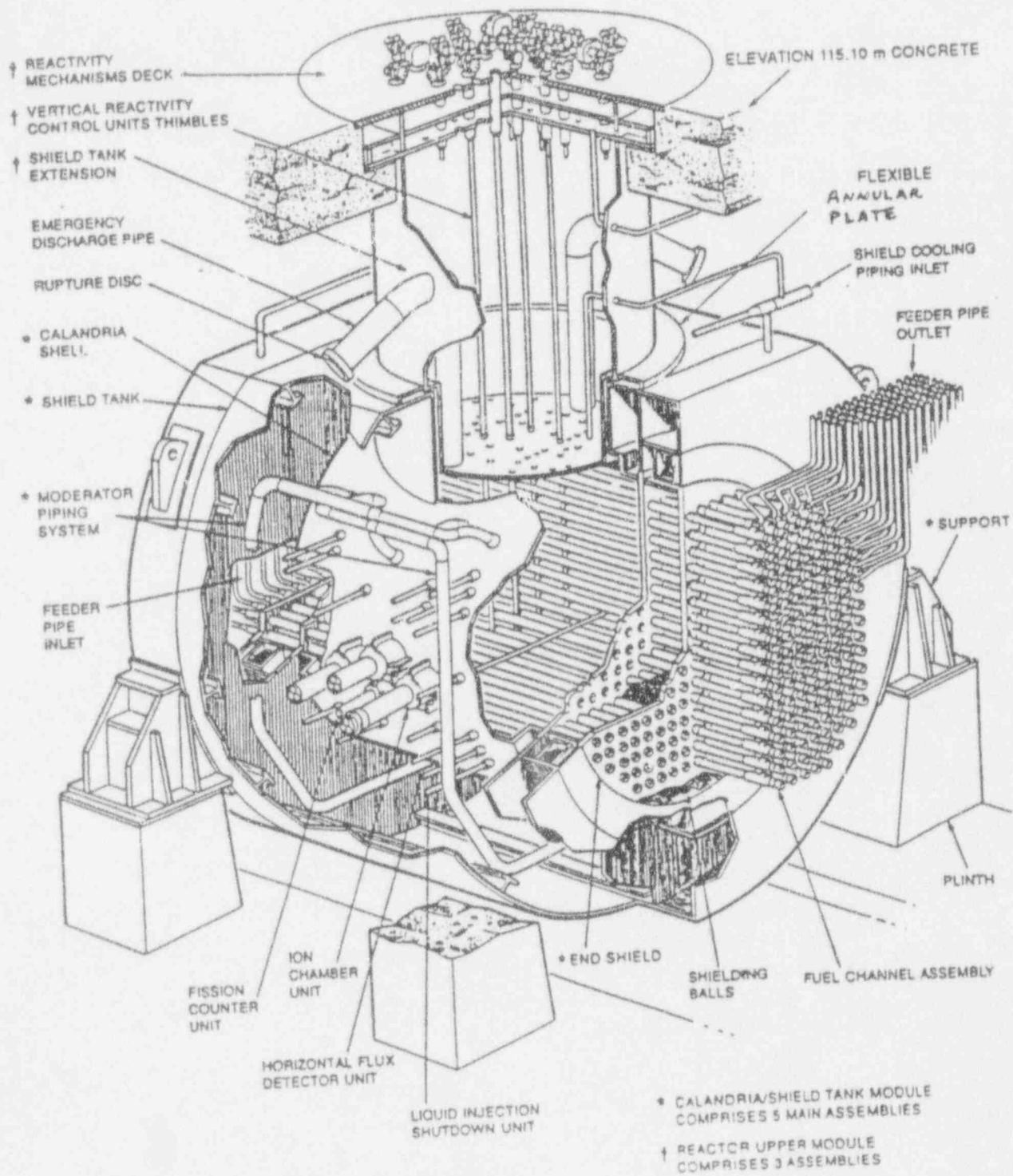
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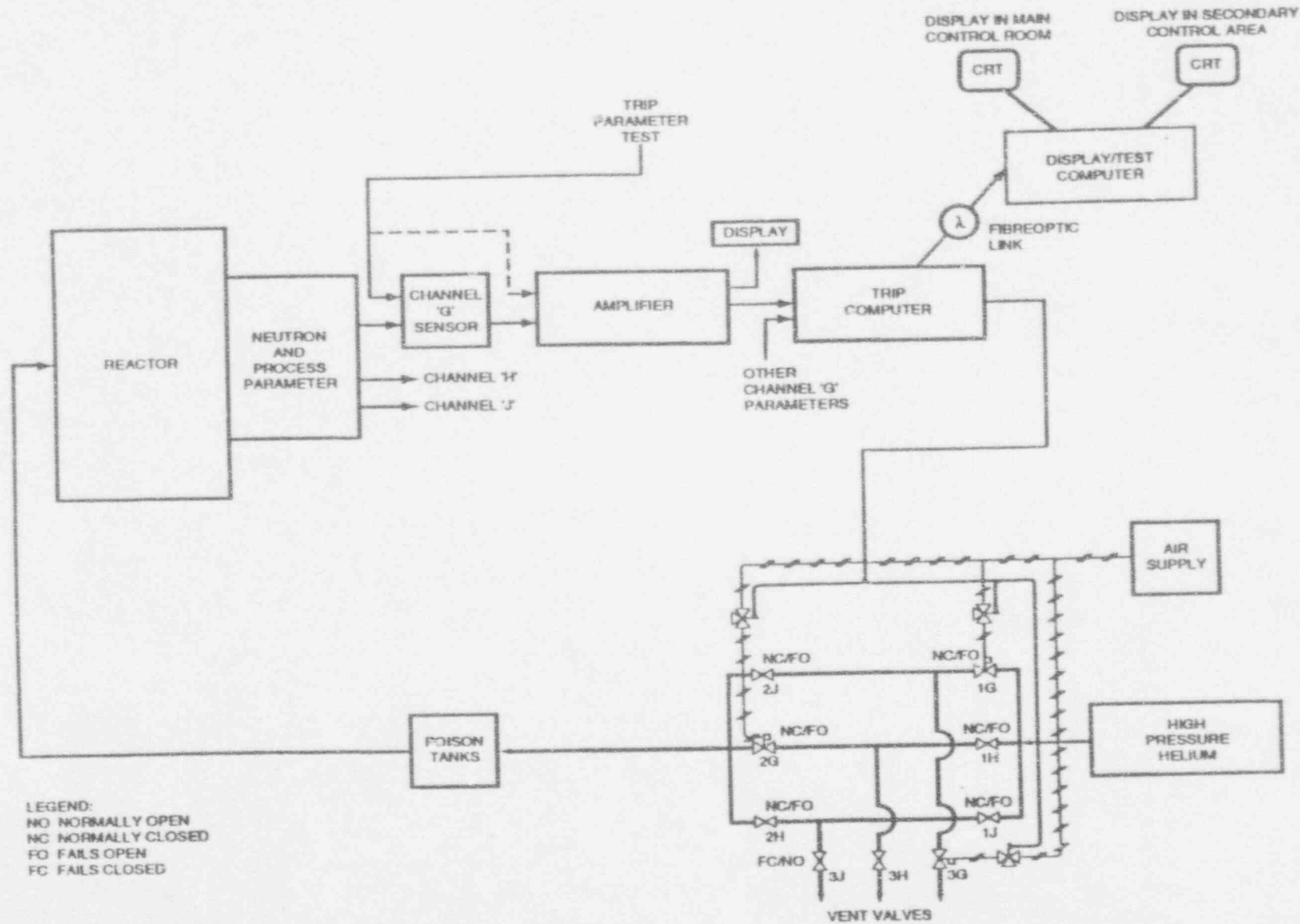
# SDS2 CONCEPT



**SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF THE LIQUID INJECTION SYSTEM USED FOR SHUTDOWN SYSTEM NO. 2**



REACTOR ASSEMBLY



LEGEND:  
 NO NORMALLY OPEN  
 NC NORMALLY CLOSED  
 FO FAILS OPEN  
 FC FAILS CLOSED

930118-7 22-1

SHUTDOWN SYSTEM NO. 2 – BLOCK DIAGRAM



AECL EA CL

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# **2 SDSS - BASIC REQUIREMENTS**



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# ***SEPARATION AND INDEPENDENCE REQUIREMENTS***

- “As far as practicable, the shutdown systems shall be of diverse designs and shall be physically and operationally independent from each other, from process systems and from other special safety systems”
  - Diversity of shutdown method
  - Physical independence
    - » geographic separation
    - » different instrumentation (different suppliers, etc)
    - » separate power supplies, etc





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## ***ACTUATION INSTRUMENTATION REQMTS (2 TRIP PARAMETERS)***

- “For each event specified in the following table there shall be at least 2 diverse trip parameters on each shutdown system, each designed to detect the need for and automatically initiate shutdown action ....”



---

***Events Requiring Two Parameters  
on Each Shutdown Systems  
Table 1***

1. Failure of reactor control systems.
2. Failure of normal electric power.
3. Seizure of a primary heat transport system main pump.
4. Failure of any feeder pipe in the primary heat transport system.
5. Failure of an end fitting.
6. Failure of a pressure tube and its associated calandria tube.



---

***Events Requiring Two Parameters  
on Each Shutdown Systems  
Table 1 (continued)***

7. Blockage of a fuel channel.
8. Failure of a fuelling machine to replace a closure plug.
9. Inadvertent opening of pressure relief or control valves on the primary heat transport system or associated systems.
10. Failure of steam generator tubes.
11. Failure of feedwater/steam system.
12. Failure of moderator system.
13. Failure of service water system.



---

***Events Requiring Two Parameters  
on Each Shutdown Systems  
Table 1 (continued)***

14. Failure of any other equipment in reactor systems which, in the absence of shutdown action, could result in damage to fuel in the reactor.

***TABLE 2***

1. Failure of any pipe or header in any fuel cooling system.



**Shutdown System Number One  
Trip Parameters and Setpoints  
Sheet 1 of 3**

| <b>Trip Parameter</b>               | <b>Detector Type</b>                         | <b>Setpoint</b>   | <b>Conditioning Parameters</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| High Neutron Power                  | Vertical In-core Detectors                   | 122% nominal<br>114% effective<br>(after uncertainties)                             | Setpoints adjusted by pushbuttons for some abnormal flux shapes.            |
| High Rate Log Neutron Power         | Fission Chambers On Both Sides               | 10% per second  | -   |
| High Heat Transport System Pressure | Pressure Transmitters On Both Outlet Headers | Immediate Trip -<br>10.45 MPa (g)<br>(1515 psig)<br>Delayed Trip -<br>10.24 MPa (g) | Delayed trip conditioned out when flux detector signal $\phi_{AVEC} < 70\%$ |
| Low Gross Coolant Flow              | $\Delta P$ Transmitters                      | ~80% of nominal flow at full power in instrumented channels                         | Conditioned out when ion chamber log-N $< 0.1\%$ FP.                        |
| High Reactor Building Pressure      | $\Delta P$ Transmitters                      | $\Delta P$ of 4 kPa(g)<br>(0.58 psig)   | -   |



**Shutdown System Number One  
Trip Parameters and Setpoints  
Sheet 2 of 3**

| Trip Parameters           | Detector Type      | Setpoint   | Conditioning Parameters  |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Low Pressurizer Level     | Level Transmitters | Function of reactor power (10.3 m at full power) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Setpoint determined by flux detector signals <math>\phi_{AVEC}</math></li><li>2. Conditioned out when:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Log-N &lt; 1% FP, and</li><li>b. <math>\phi_{AVEC}</math> &lt; 10% FP.</li></ol></li></ol> |
| Low Steam Generator Level | Level Transmitters | Function of reactor power                        | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Setpoint determined by flux detector signals <math>\phi_{AVEC}</math></li><li>2. Conditioned out when:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Log-N &lt; 5% FP, and</li><li>b. <math>\phi_{AVEC}</math> &lt; 10% FP.</li></ol></li></ol> |



**Shutdown System Number One  
Trip Parameters and Setpoints  
Sheet 3 of 3**

| Trip Parameter              | Detector Type                                | Setpoint  | Conditioning Parameters   |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|
| High Moderator Level        | $\Delta P$ Transmitters                      | TBD   | -   |
| Low Moderator Level         | $\Delta P$ Transmitters                      | TBD   | -   |
| Low Heat Transport Pressure | Pressure Transmitters On Both Outlet Headers | Function of Reactor Power (8.4 MPa (g) at full Power) | 1. Conditioned out when Log-N < 0.1% FP<br>2. Setpoint is function of $\phi_{AVEC}$ |
| Low S/G Feedline Pressure   | Pressure Transmitters                        | 3.9 MPa (g)   | 1. Conditioned out when Log-N < 10% FP  |
| Manual                      | -  | -   | -   |
| Watchdog Timers             | -  | -   | -   |
| Start-up Count Rate         | BF <sub>3</sub>                              | 5% / sec  | -   |



**Shutdown System Number Two  
Trip Parameters and Setpoints  
Sheet 1 of 3**

| <b>Trip Parameters</b>              | <b>Detector Type</b>              | <b>Setpoint</b>                                    | <b>Conditioning Parameters</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| High Neutron Power                  | Horizontal In-core Detectors      | 122% nominal<br>114% effective after uncertainties | Setpoints adjusted by handswitches for some abnormal fluxshapes.  |
| High Rate Log Neutron Power         | Ion Chambers on both Sides        | 15% per second                                     | -   |
| Low Core Flow                       | Differential Pressure Transmitter | 80% in instrumented channels                       | 1. Log-N from ion chambers<br>$\phi < 0.3\%$<br>(pushbutton, for long shutdowns)<br>$\phi < 5\%$ (normal operation)<br>2. Power Rundown Discriminator |
| High Heat Transport System Pressure | Pressure Transmitter              | 10.55 MPa (g)<br>immediate (1530 psig)             | Power Rundown Discriminator   |





**Shutdown System Number Two  
Trip Parameters and Setpoints  
Sheet 2 of 3**

| Trip Parameters           | Detector Type                     | Setpoint   | Conditioning Parameters  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Low Steam Generator Level | Differential Pressure Transmitter | Function of reactor power                        | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Conditioned on Log -N &lt; 5% FP or <math>\phi_{AVEC} &lt; 10\%</math> FP</li><li>2. Setpoint is a function of reactor power (<math>\phi_{AVEC}</math>)</li></ol> |
| Low Pressure Level        | Differential Pressure Transmitter | Function of reactor power (10.3 m at full power) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Setpoint is a function of in-core flux detector signals (<math>\phi_{AVEC}</math>)</li><li>2. Conditioned out on Log-N &lt; 1%</li></ol>                          |



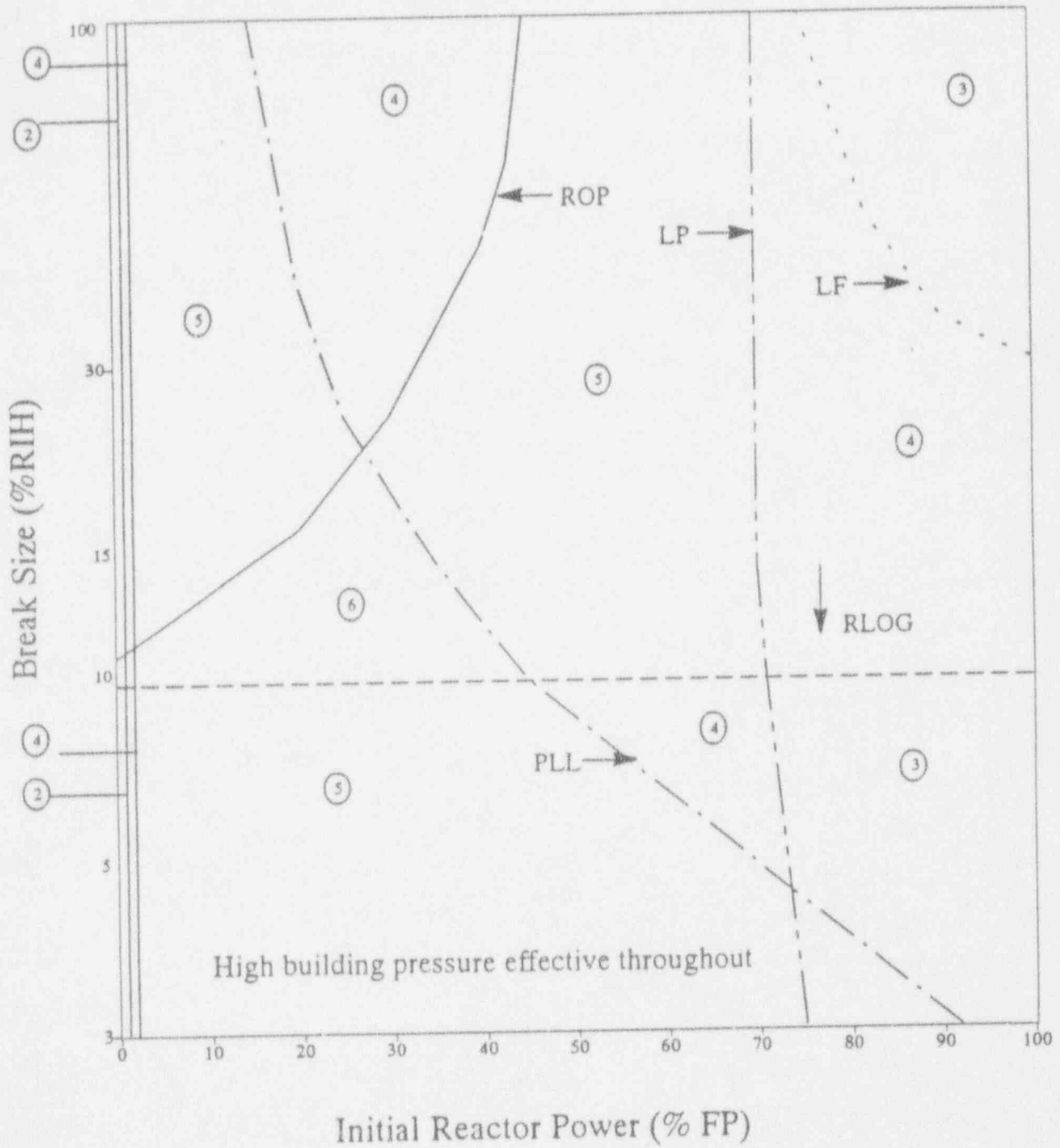
**Shutdown System Number Two  
Trip Parameters and Setpoints  
Sheet 3 of 3**

| <b>Trip Parameters</b>                | <b>Detector Type</b>              | <b>Setpoint</b>                                       | <b>Conditioning Parameters</b>  |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Low Heat Transport System Pressure    | Pressure Transmitter              | Function of reactor power (8.4 MPa (g) at full power) | 1. Conditioned out on Log-N < 0.3% FP<br>2. Setpoint is function of ( $\phi_{AVEC}$ ) |
| High Reactor Building Pressure        | Differential Pressure Transmitter | 4 KPa (g) (0.58 psig)                                 | -   |
| Low Steam Generator Feedline Pressure | Pressure Transmitter              | 3.9 MPa (g)   | Conditioned out on Log-N < 10% FP   |
| High Moderator Level                  | Differential Pressure Transmitter | TBD   | -   |
| Low Moderator Level                   | Differential Pressure Transmitter | TBD   | -   |
| Manual                                | -                                 | -   | -   |
| Watchdogs                             | -                                 | -   | -   |



# ***ACTUATION INSTRUMENTATION REQMTS (2 TRIP PARAMETERS)***

- Design assist analysis - use of trip coverage maps
- Final safety analysis is confirmatory analysis

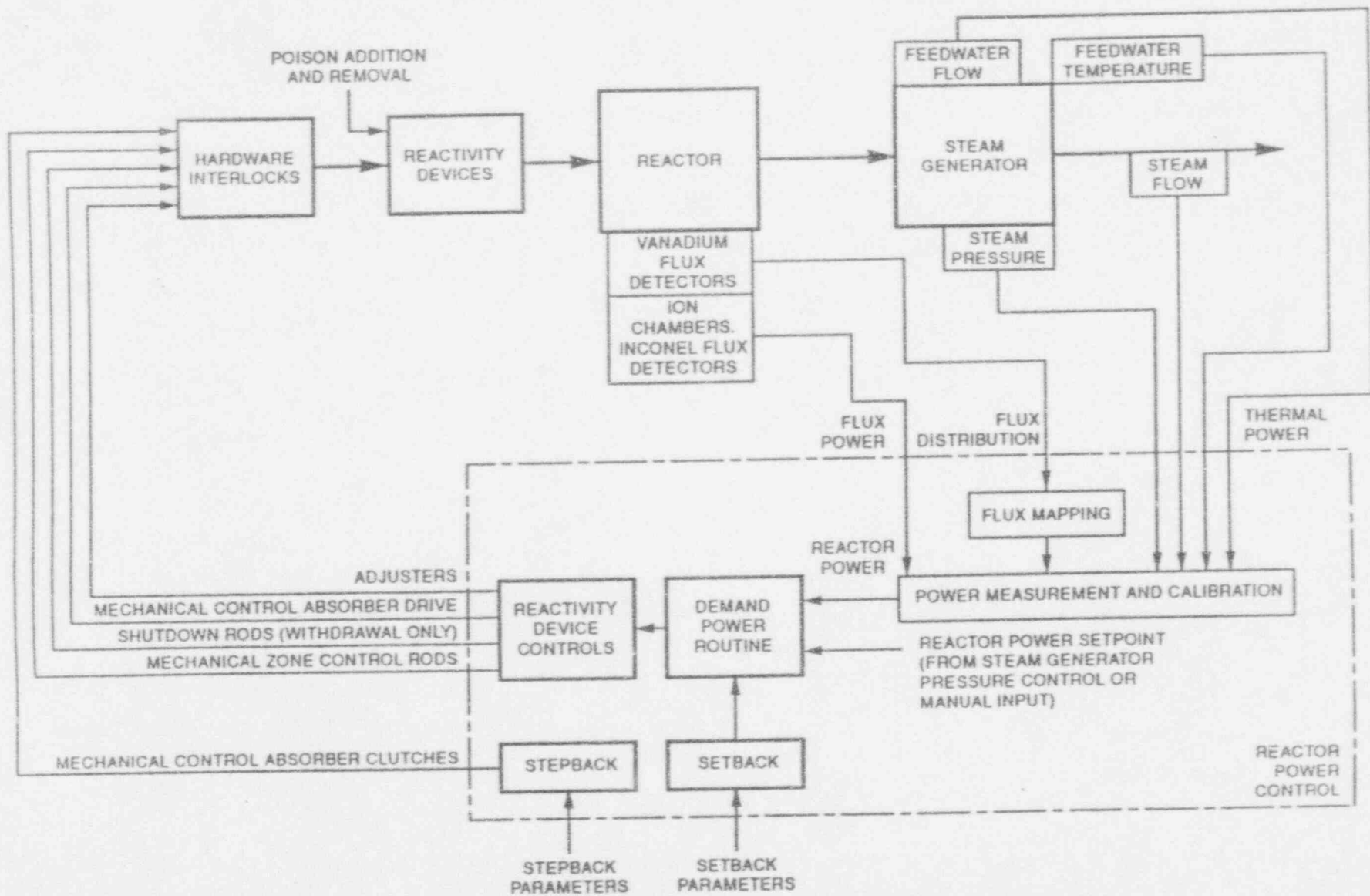


SDS1 Trip Coverage Map for Large LOCA



# ***DEFENSE-IN-DEPTH (REACTOR SHUTDOWN)***

- **Reactor Control**
  - RRS (Reactor Regulating System)
  - Setbacks
  - Stepbacks (separate instrumentation and logic from RRS)
    - » MCAs (Mechanical Control Absorbers) - devices only for setback and stepback
- **SDS1**
- **SDS2**



Reactor Regulating System – Block Diagram



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# ***TYPICAL REACTOR SETBACK CONDITIONS***

- Zone controller system failure
- Spatial control off normal
- High local neutron flux
- Turbine trip
- Loss of line
- High steam pressure
- Low de-aerator level
- High moderator level
- Manual



# ***TYPICAL REACTOR STEPBACK CONDITIONS***

- Reactor Trip
- Main coolant pump trip
- High heat transport pressure
- High flux power
- High rate log
- Low steam generator level
- Low moderator level





# ***AVAILABILITY REQUIREMENTS***

- “Each shutdown system shall be designed such that the fraction of time for which it is unavailable can be demonstrated to be less than  $10^{-3}$ .”
  - In other words, the probability the system works on demand is  $>999/1000$  challenges.
  - Demonstration is accomplished through a combination of overlapping tests with predicted future unavailability using fault tree techniques



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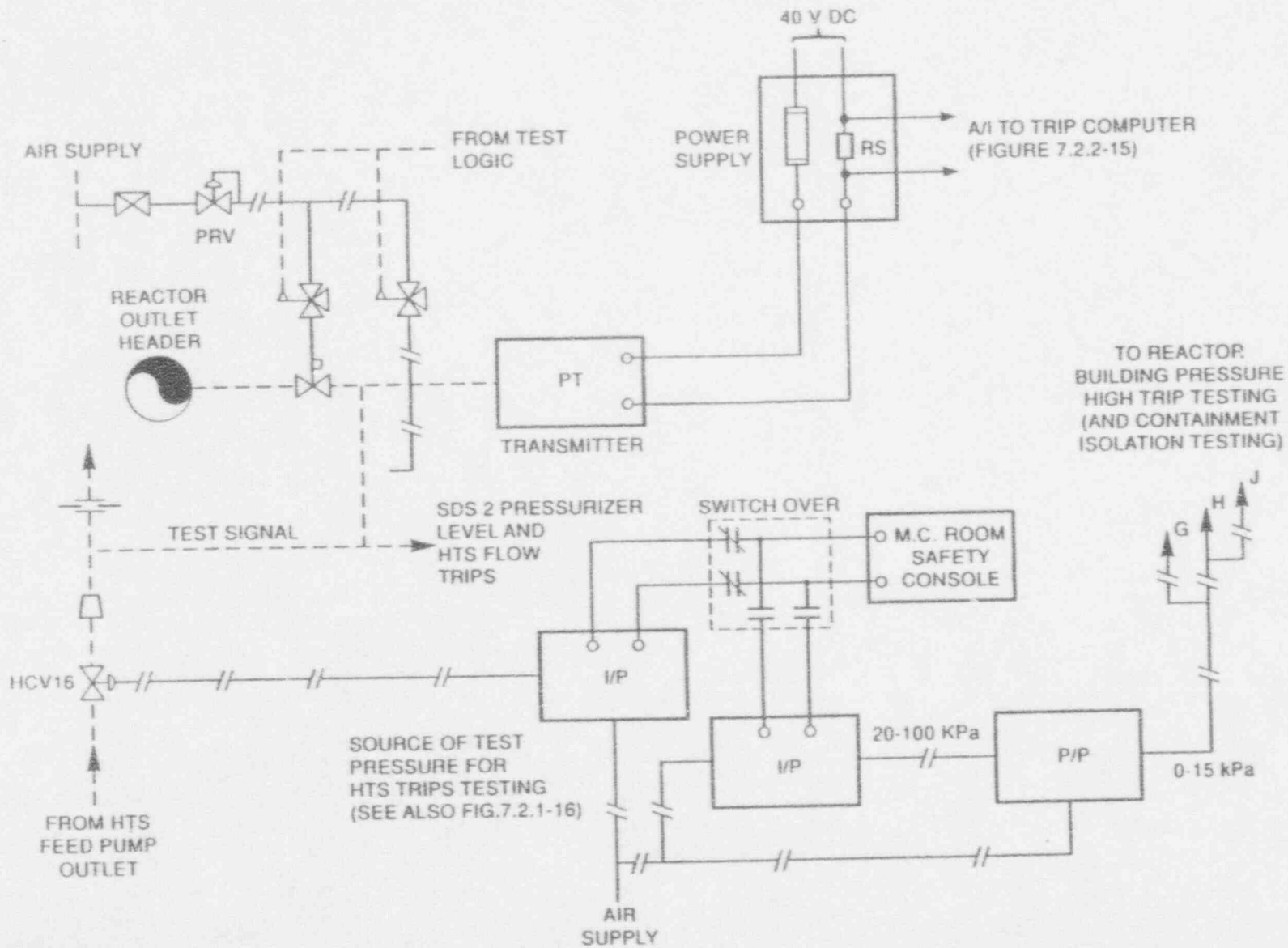
# ***AVAILABILITY REQUIREMENTS (DESIGN TARGET)***

- For design purposes, the system availability requirement is used as a target on an individual trip parameter basis
  - This means that although we have  $\geq 2$  trip parameter coverage for each accident condition, we only require each parameter acting alone to meet the unavailability requirement.



# ***AVAILABILITY TESTING REQUIREMENTS***

- “All shutdown system equipment shall be monitored or tested at a frequency which is adequate to demonstrate compliance with the availability requirement.”



930118-7.2.2-6

**HTS Pressure Trips Measurement Loop (Typical) and Testing Arrangements**



# Safety System Faults

| Type | Definition   |
|------|--|
| 0    | A <u>Type 0</u> fault totally incapacitated the system, such that it would not have provided any protection under any conditions.  |
| 1    | A <u>Type 1</u> fault significantly reduced the effectiveness of the system, such that it would have been of little or no benefit if the worst possible process system failure had occurred.   |
| 2    | A <u>Type 2</u> fault reduced the effectiveness of the system, such that it would have failed to satisfy the design intent. However, the system would still have operated and significant benefit would have been gained from its operation. |
| 3    | A <u>Type 3</u> fault reduced the level of redundancy that is built into the system. The effectiveness of the system was not significantly reduced and the design intent could still be satisfied.   |
| 4    | A <u>Type 4</u> fault reduced the effectiveness of the system, or a single component, such that it was outside normal operating limits. However, the design intent could still be satisfied.   |
| 5    | A <u>Type 5</u> fault had no negative effect on the system.  |

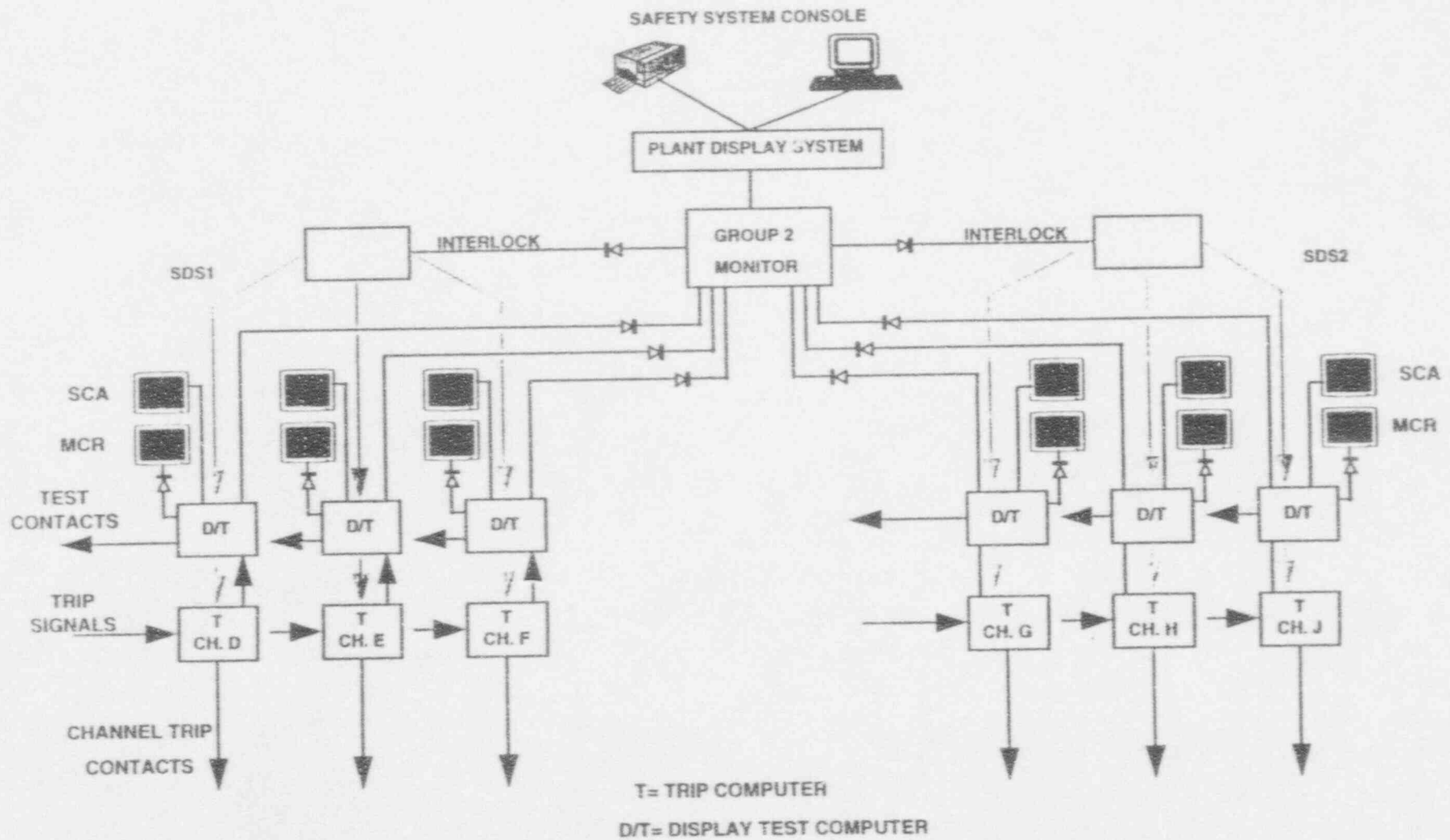


# ***STATUS MONITORING REQUIREMENTS***

- “The design of a shutdown system shall be such that the status of all important equipment required for its actuation can be monitored from or inferred from the control room.”



# CONFIGURATION OF FULLY COMPUTERIZED SHUTDOWN SYSTEMS





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## ***USE OF COMPUTERS FOR CANDU SDSs***

- Long history of computer usage in SDSs - C-6 plants
  - The three CANDU 600 stations (Wolsong 1, Gentilly 2 and Pt. Lepreau) have over 300 unit-years of operating history without a single unsafe failure reported.
- Darlington NGS fully computerized SDS design
  - Trip decision logic
  - Operator displays
  - Operator-assisted testing
  - Monitoring
    - » signal spreadchecks
    - » margin to trip annunciation





## ***REASONS FOR USING COMPUTERS IN SDSs***

- Fail safe nature (ability to convert unsafe failures into safe failures)
- Greater production reliability



---

# ***SOFTWARE ENGINEERING PRACTICE***

- AECL and Ontario Hydro have developed 2 highly rigorous methodologies whose distinctive characteristics are:
  - Use of mathematical functions for software requirements specification and design description (sometimes referred to as “formal” methods)
  - The design description is mathematically verified against the requirements specification and the code is mathematically verified against the design description.



---

## ***ANALYSIS OF RESULTS TO- DATE***

- **AECL is using these 2 methodologies for SDS1 and SDS2 for Wolsong 2/3/4**
- **Nearing completion of unit testing**
  - **Results to date are exceptional**
    - » **No errors in the code for the “formal” part**
    - » **A few errors found with respect to the hardware interfaces**



---

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- **AECL is using these 2 methodologies for SDS1 and SDS2 for Wolsong 2/3/4**
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  - **Results to date are exceptional**
    - » **No errors in the code for the “formal” part**
    - » **A few errors found with respect to the hardware interfaces**



## ***CONCLUSION***

- **CANDU SDS philosophy has been shaped through long years of experience (NRX incident, etc)**
- **simplicity**
- **diversity, independence**
- **availability requirements demonstrated “continuously”**
- **result is a design that provides us with a high degree of assurance that the SDSs will perform as required**



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## CANADIAN DESIGN APPROACH

- design for single initiating events that could release radioactivity
- also include design basis events with complete failure of:
  - a shutdown system
  - the emergency core cooling system
  - a containment system

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CANDU 3



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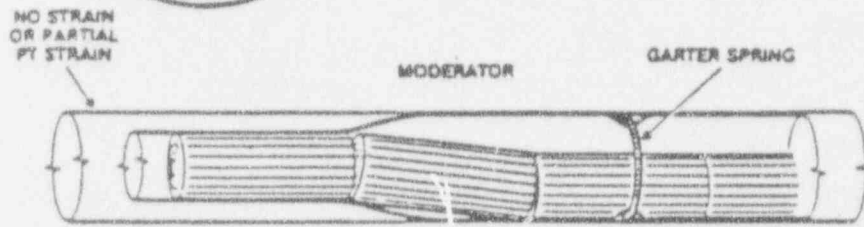
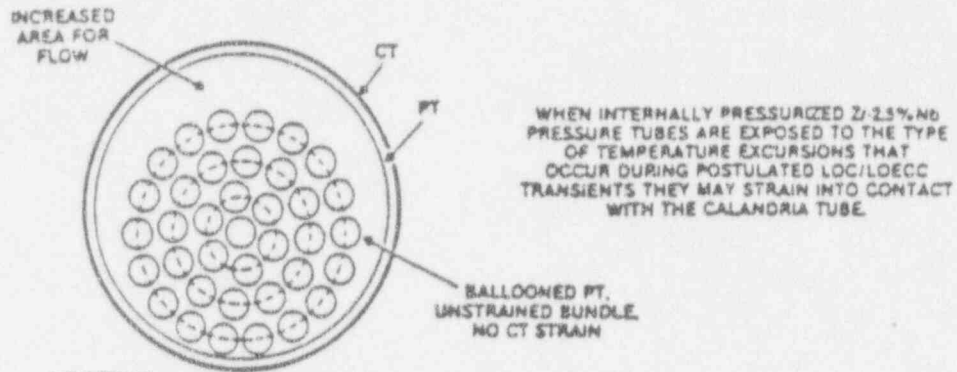
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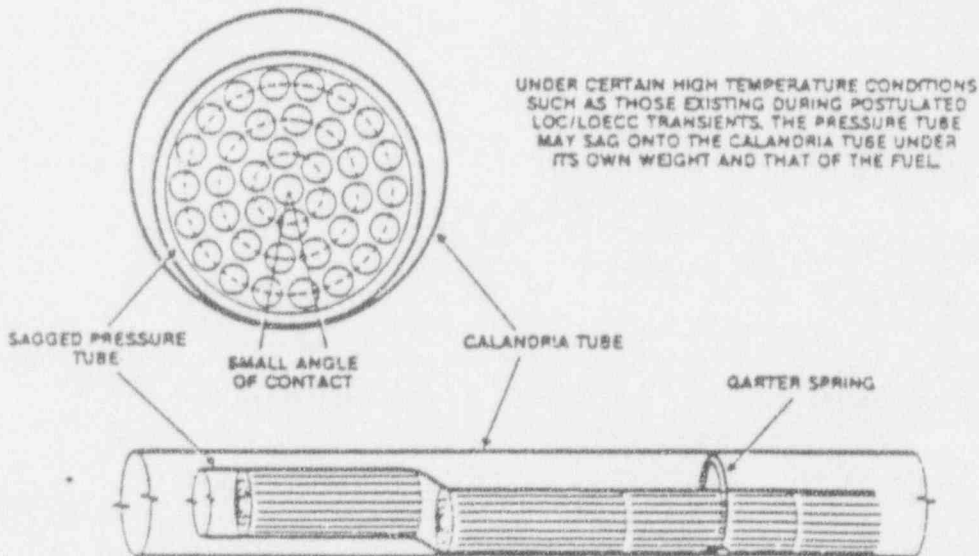
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## **IMPACT ON DESIGN**

- second diverse equally effective shutdown system
- moderator designed to provide ECCS backup
- safety systems optimized to limit doses even with containment system failures
- emphasis on reliable safety systems with in-service testing feedback



DIAMETRICAL STRAIN TO CONTACT



CONTACT DUE TO PRESSURE TUBE SAG

MODES OF PRESSURE TUBE DEFORMATION FOR LARGE LOSS OF COOLANT WITH FAILURE OF EMERGENCY COOLANT INJECTION





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## **EVENTS BEYOND CANADIAN DESIGN BASIS**

- studies include
  - probabilistic evaluations
    - Darlington PSE
    - AECL/KEMA CANDU 600 study
  - consequence evaluations
    - AECL/KEMA CANDU 600 study
    - MAAP/CANDU
    - Pickering failure of shutdown

CANDU 600  
TOTAL FREQUENCY  $4.4 \times 10^{-6}$

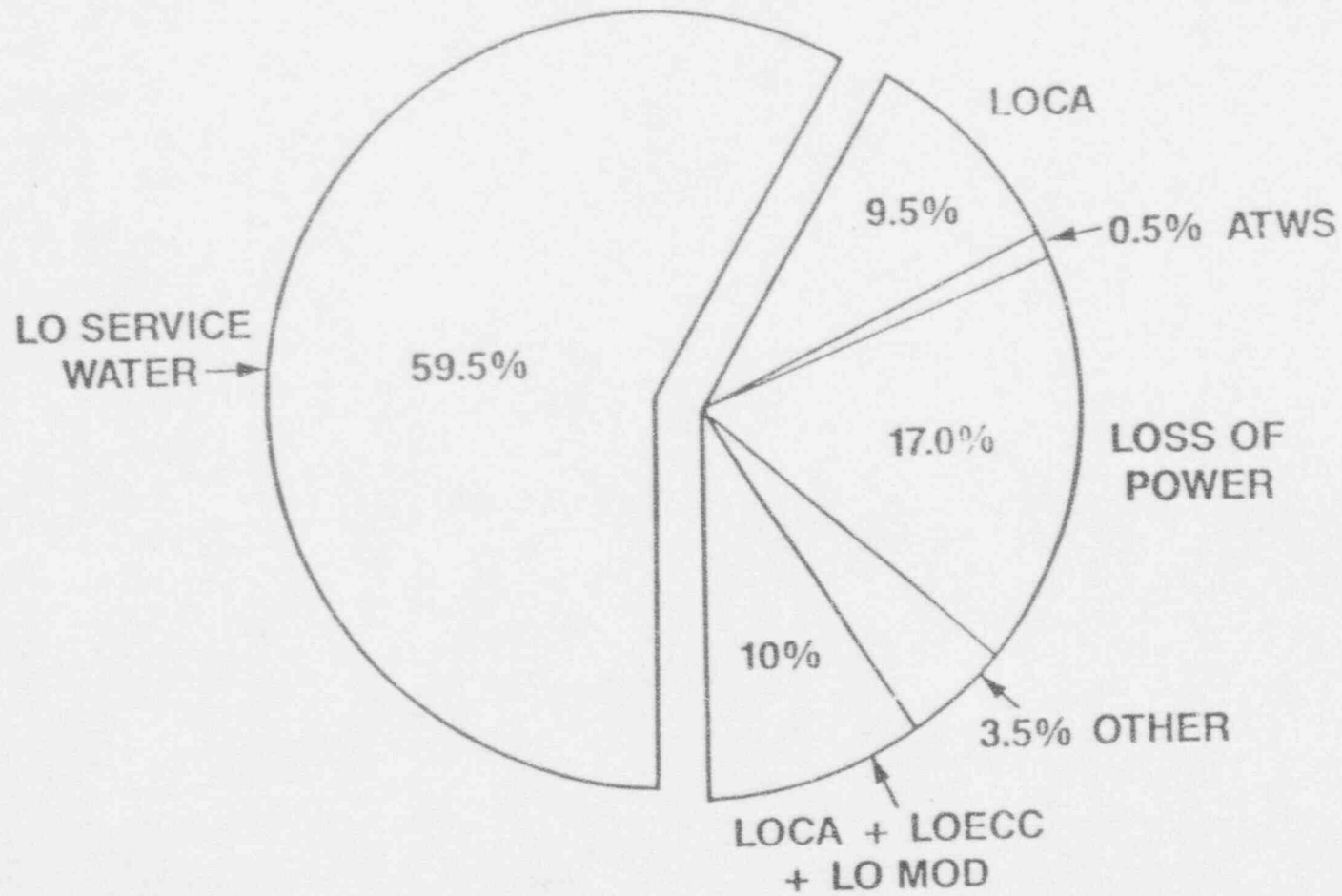


FIGURE 2.1 CORE MELT FREQUENCY

1 HOUR

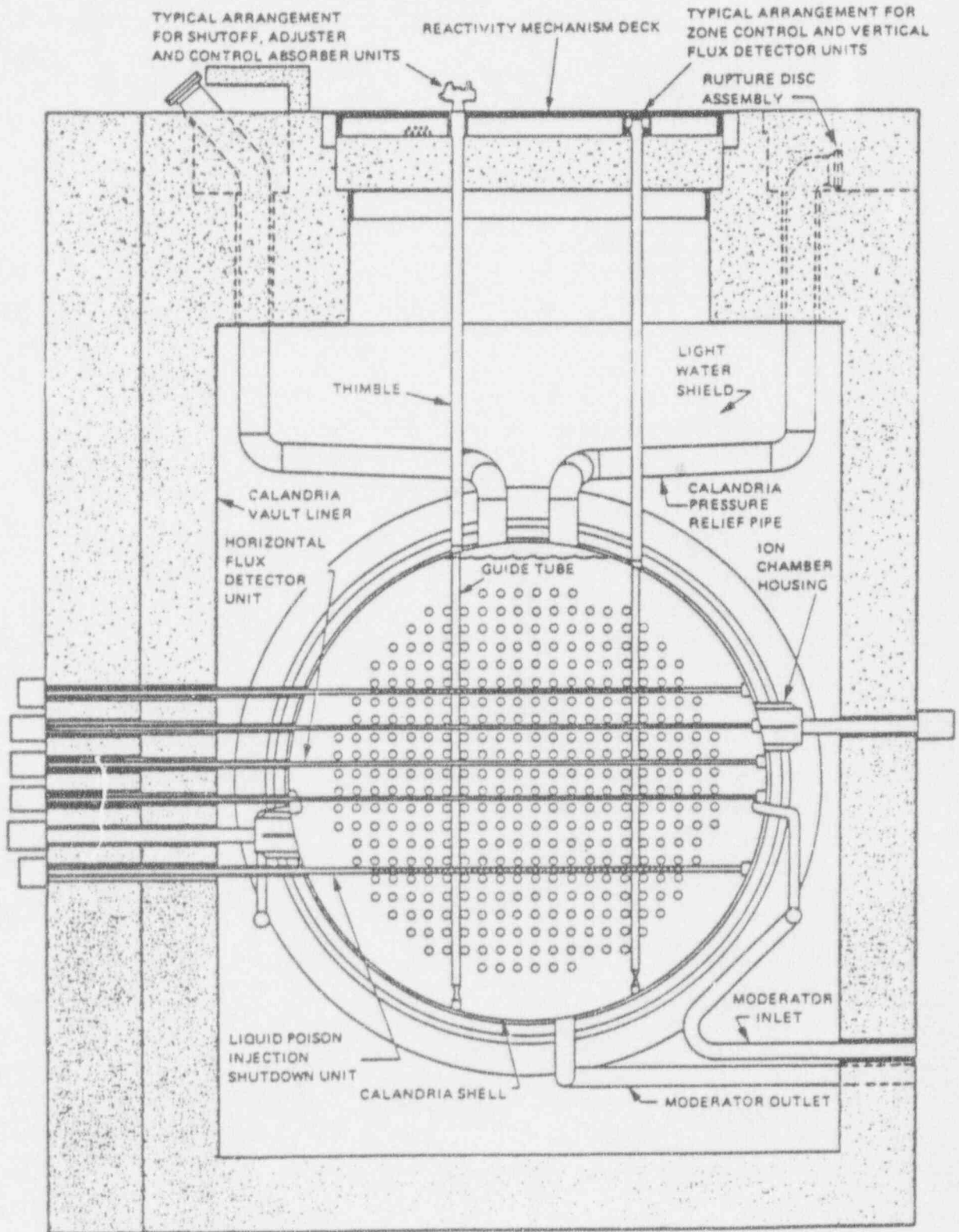


FIGURE 3.3 LATE CORE DISASSEMBLY - 1 HOUR

1-2 HOURS

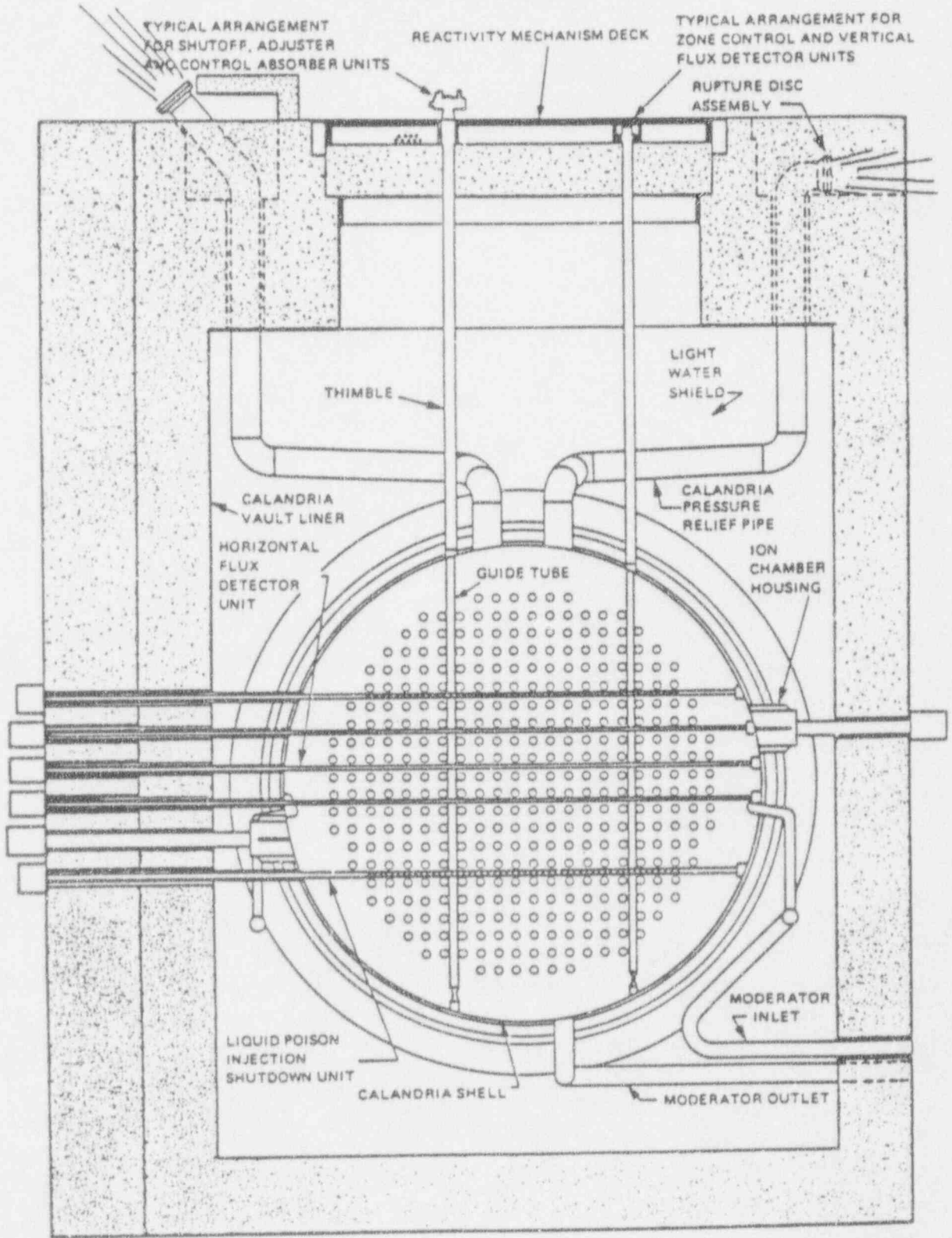


FIGURE 3.4 LATE CORE DISASSEMBLY - 1 TO 2 HOURS

3 HOURS

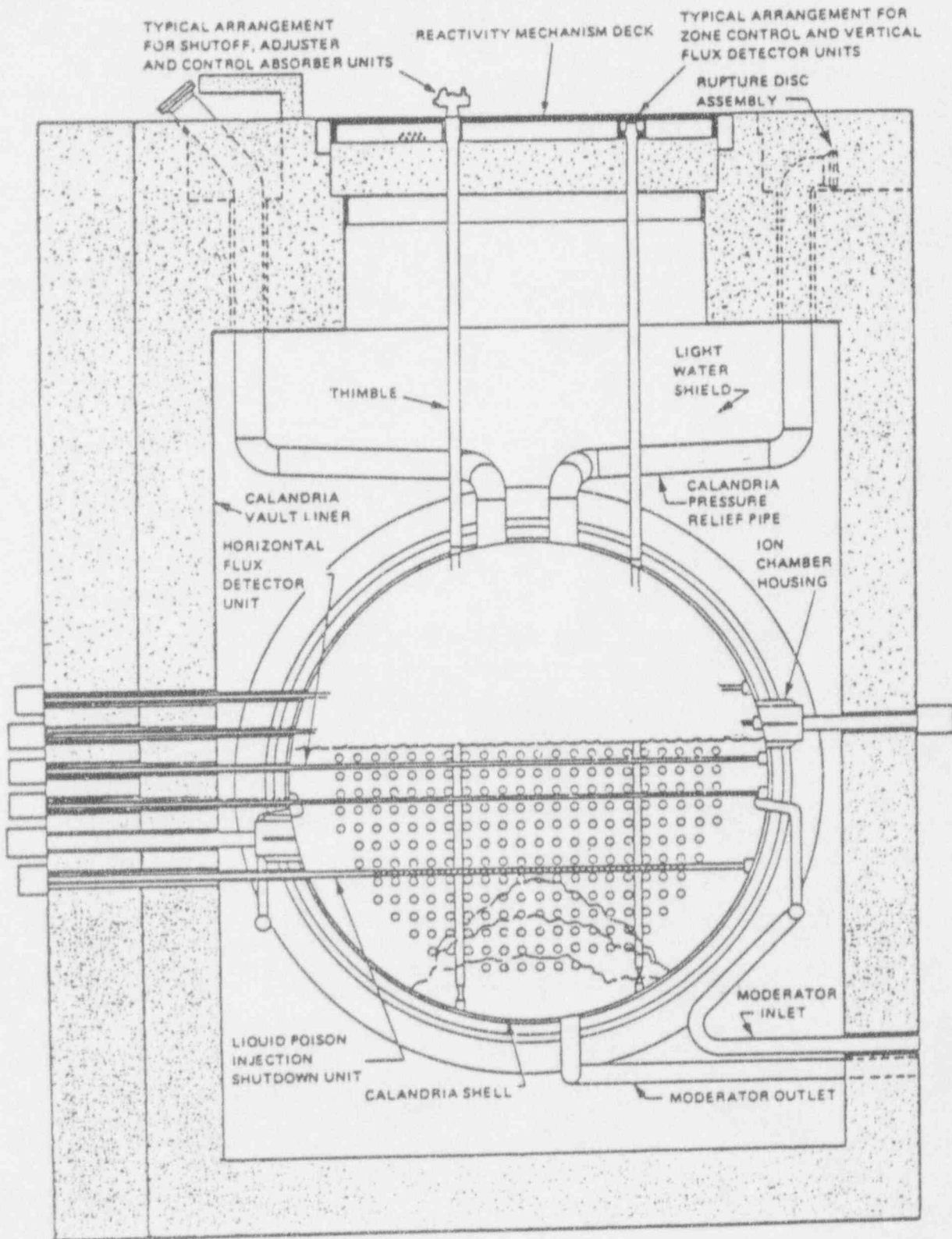


FIGURE 3.5 LATE CORE DISASSEMBLY - 3 HOURS

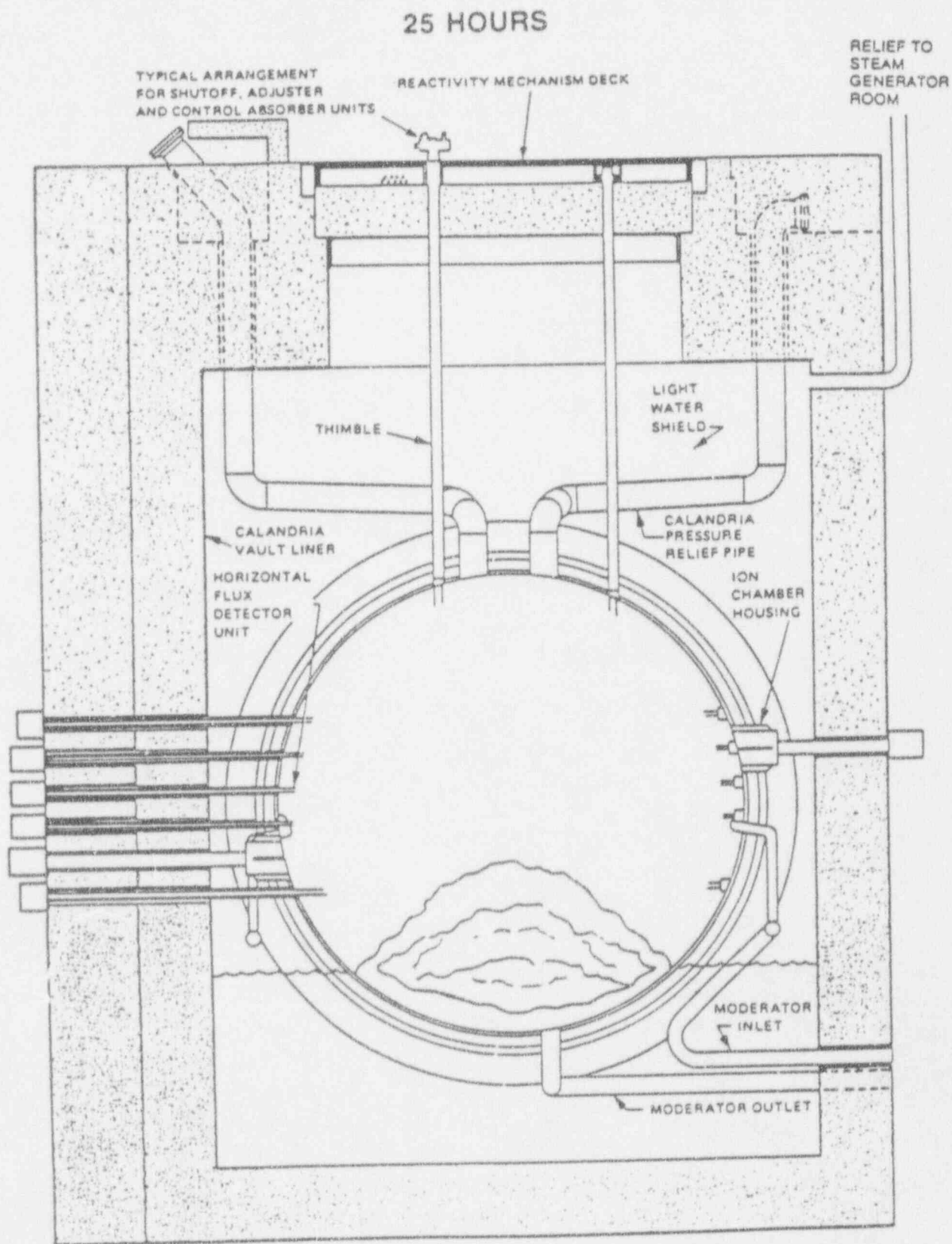


FIGURE 3.6 LATE CORE DISASSEMBLY - 25 HOURS

25 HOURS

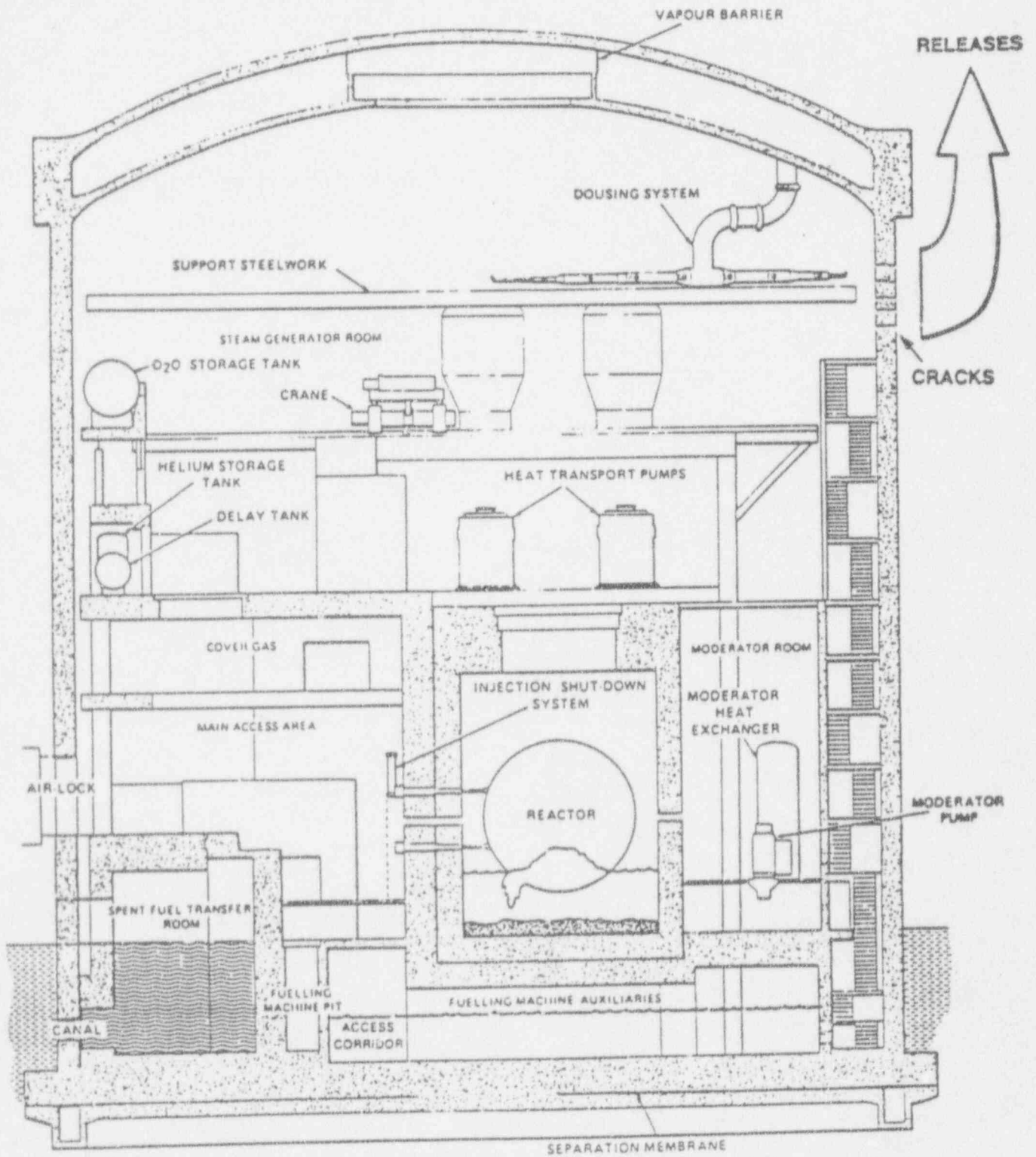


FIGURE 3.7 LATE CORE DISASSEMBLY - REACTOR BUILDING - 25 HOURS

CANDU 600 SOURCE TERM STUDY

JAN88 -RAF  
LATE CORE DISASSEMBLY

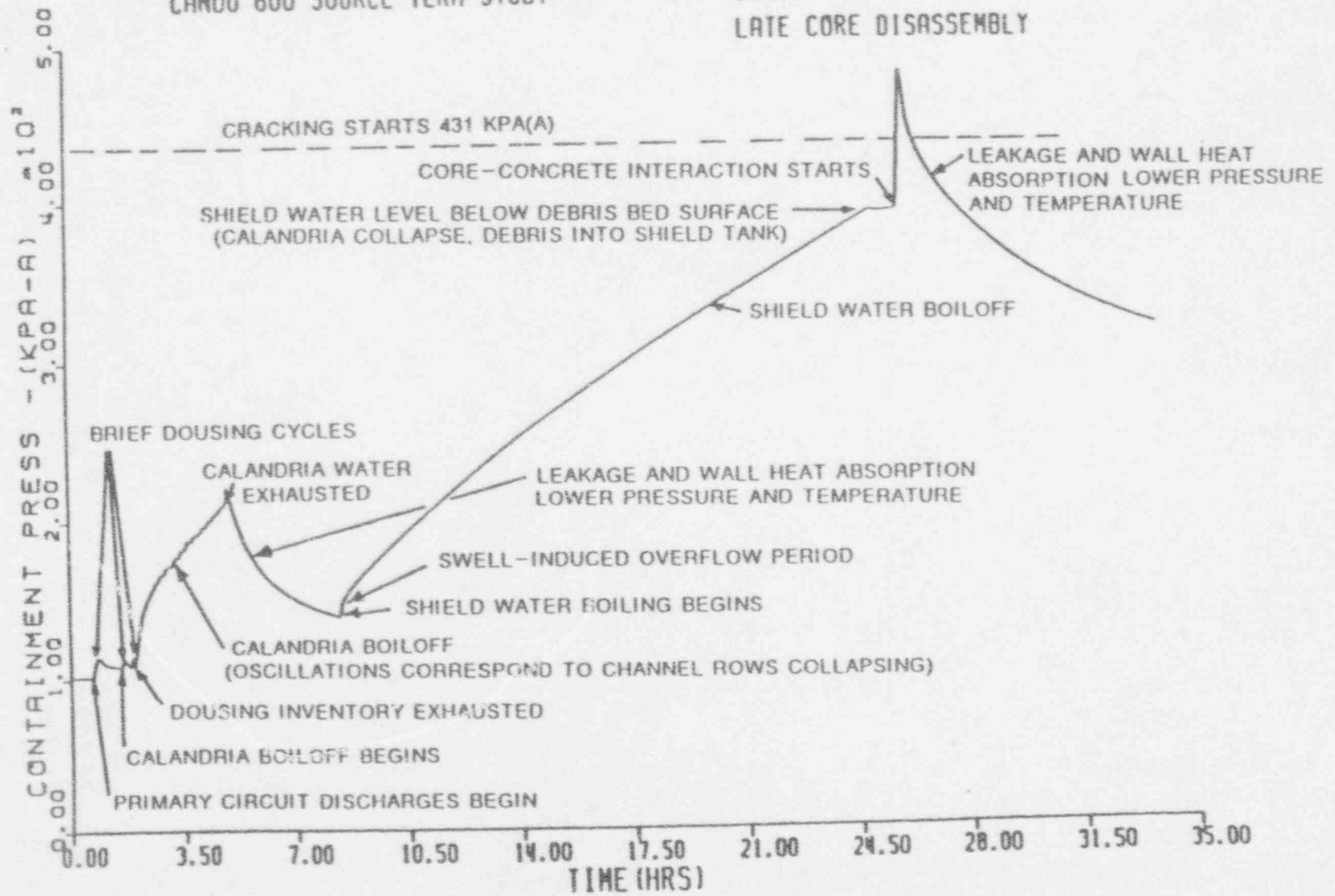


FIG. C.4-5 CONTAINMENT PRESSURE RESPONSE





AECL

EACL

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AECL CANDU

EACL CANDU

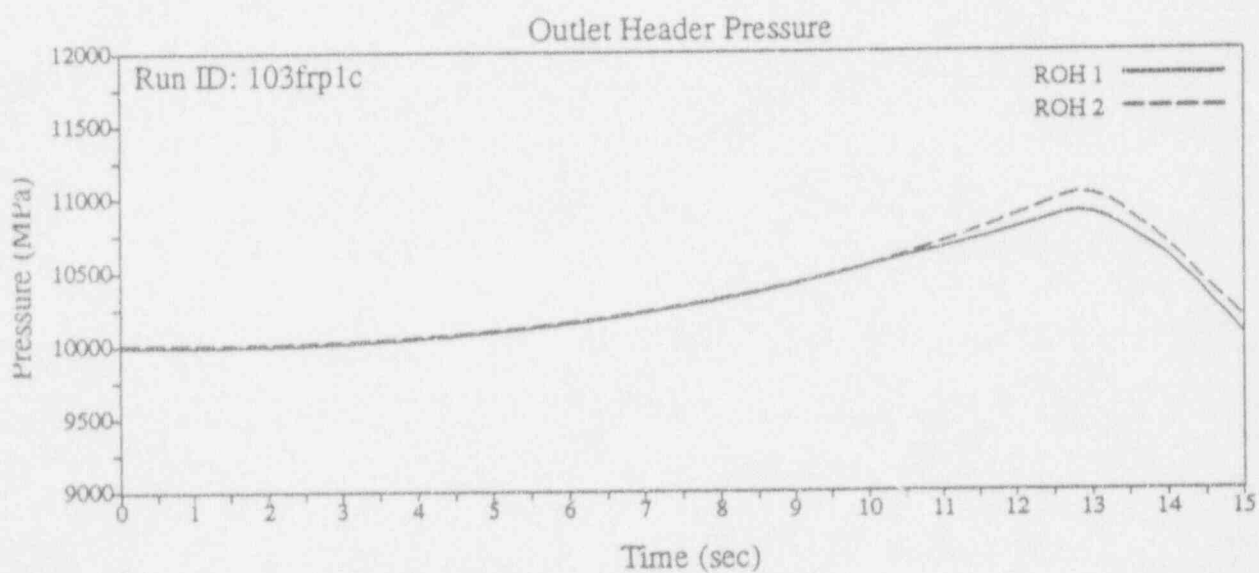
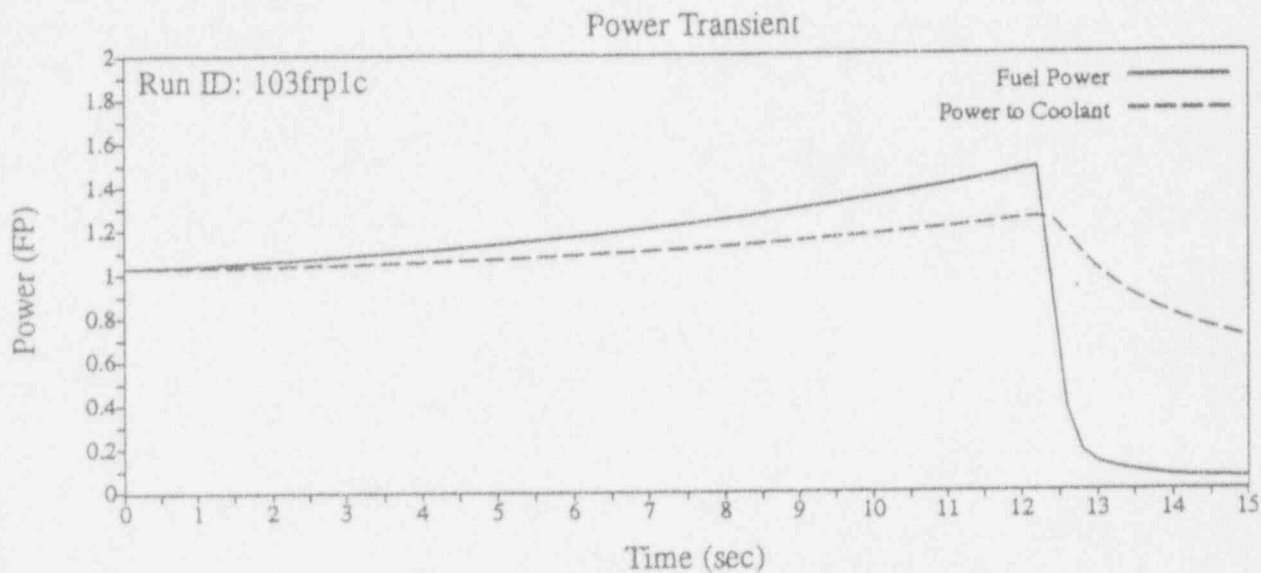
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## CANDU 3 ACCIDENTS W/O SCRAM

- probability dominated by loss of power regulation  
<3E-8 per year
- 1E-3 used for SDS unavailable includes failure of any one trip and loss of more than two rods or one poison tank
- large LOCA (<1E-9) gives faster transient and probably more coherent fuel heating – maximizes containment challenge

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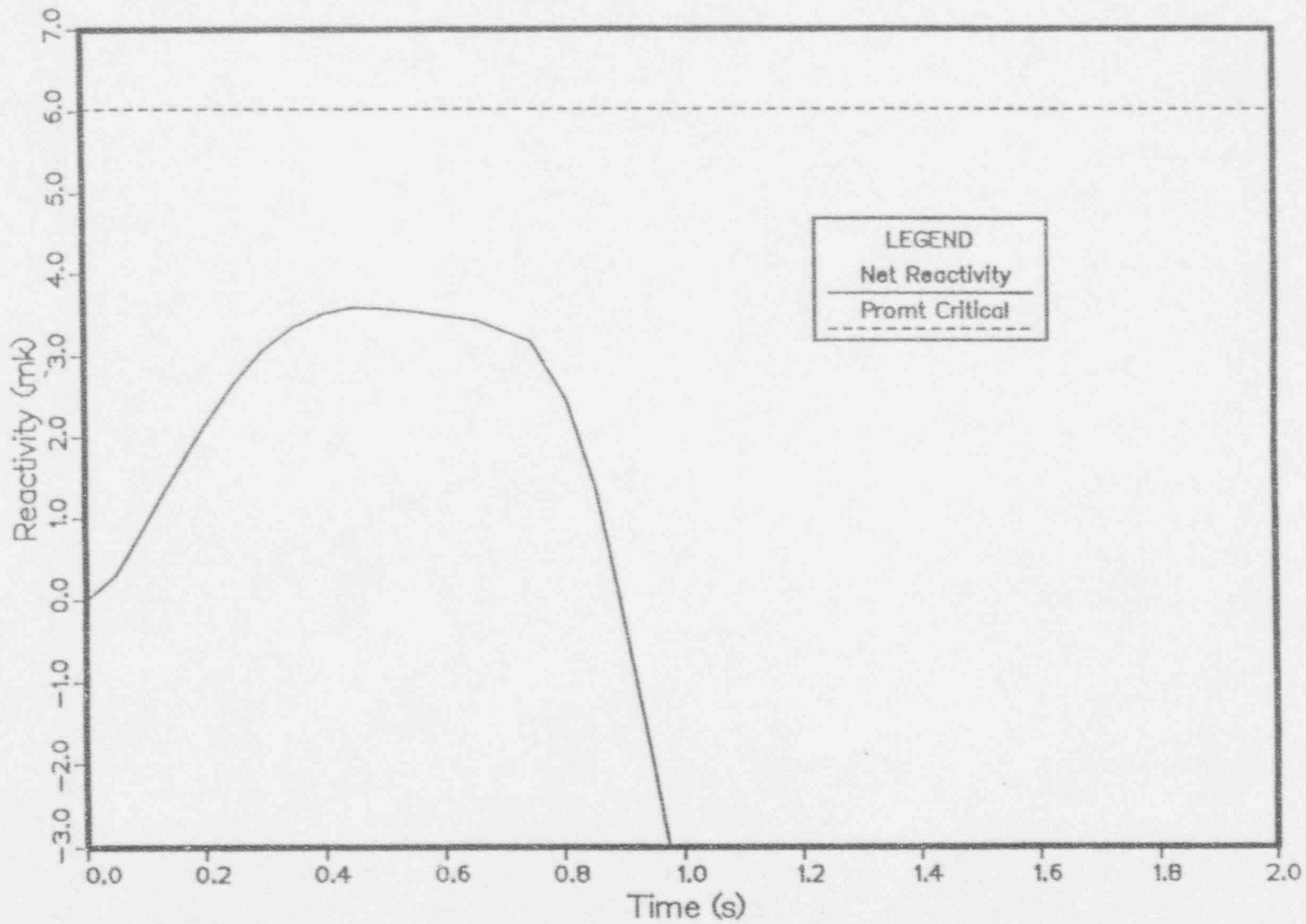
CANDU 3



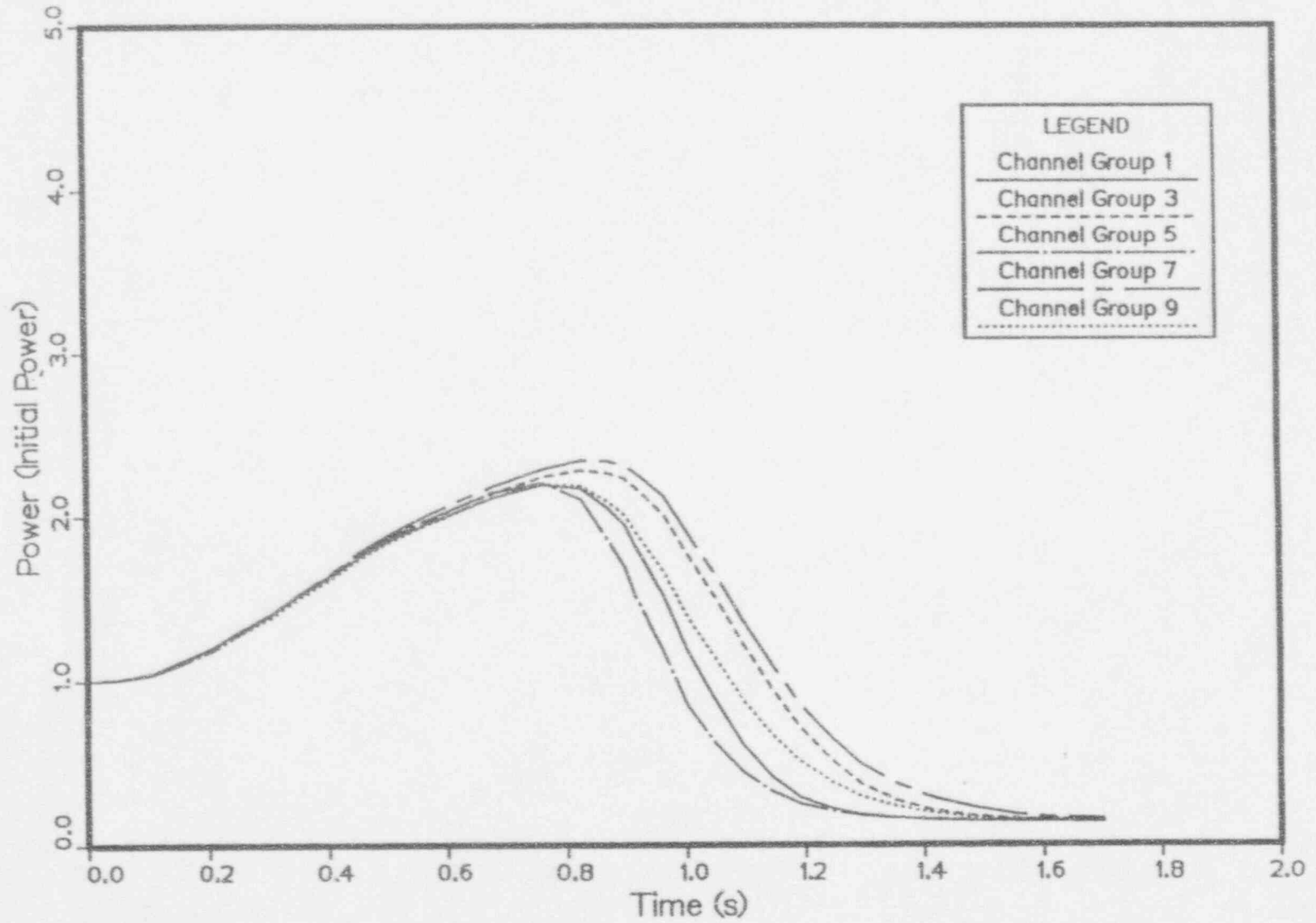
0.1mk/s from 103% FP, SDS2 Second Trip

Figure 11.1-3

### 30% RIH 103%FP 6% S-S Tilt MAPS



### 30% RIH 103%FP 6% S-S Tilt MAPS





AECL

EACL

AECL CANDU

EACL CANDU

## LARGE LOCA W/O SCRAM

- rise in power leads to fuel melting
- large number of channels (20–100) fail within a few seconds
- steam bubble created in moderator shuts reactor down quickly after first channel failures
- energy in pulse is about 40 FPS, 60 GJ for CANDU 3
- energy transfer rates to containment will be a function of amount of molten fuel and rate of coolant discharge (number of channel failures)

CANDU 3

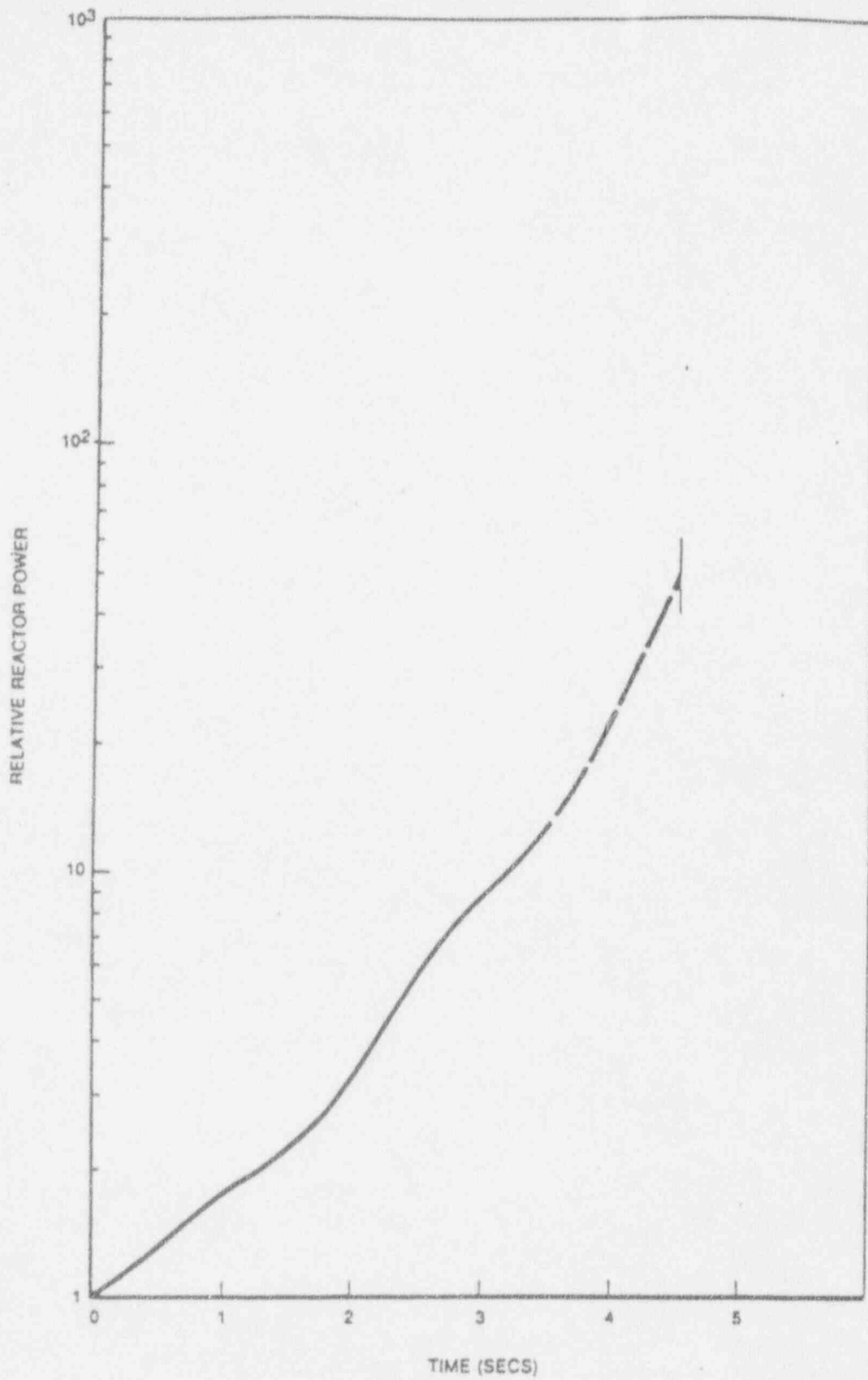


FIGURE 3.13 REACTOR POWER TRANSIENT - EARLY CORE DISASSEMBLY

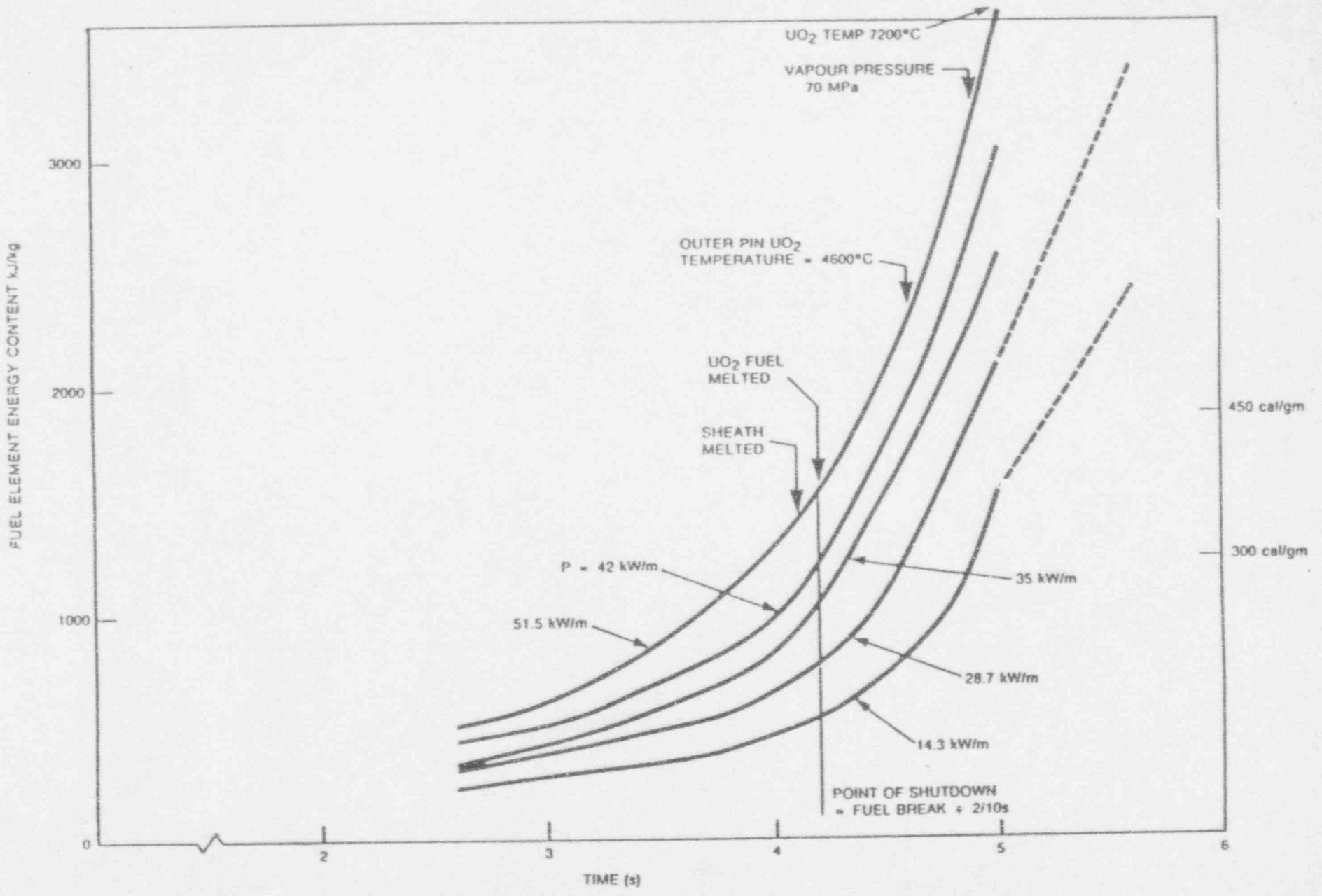
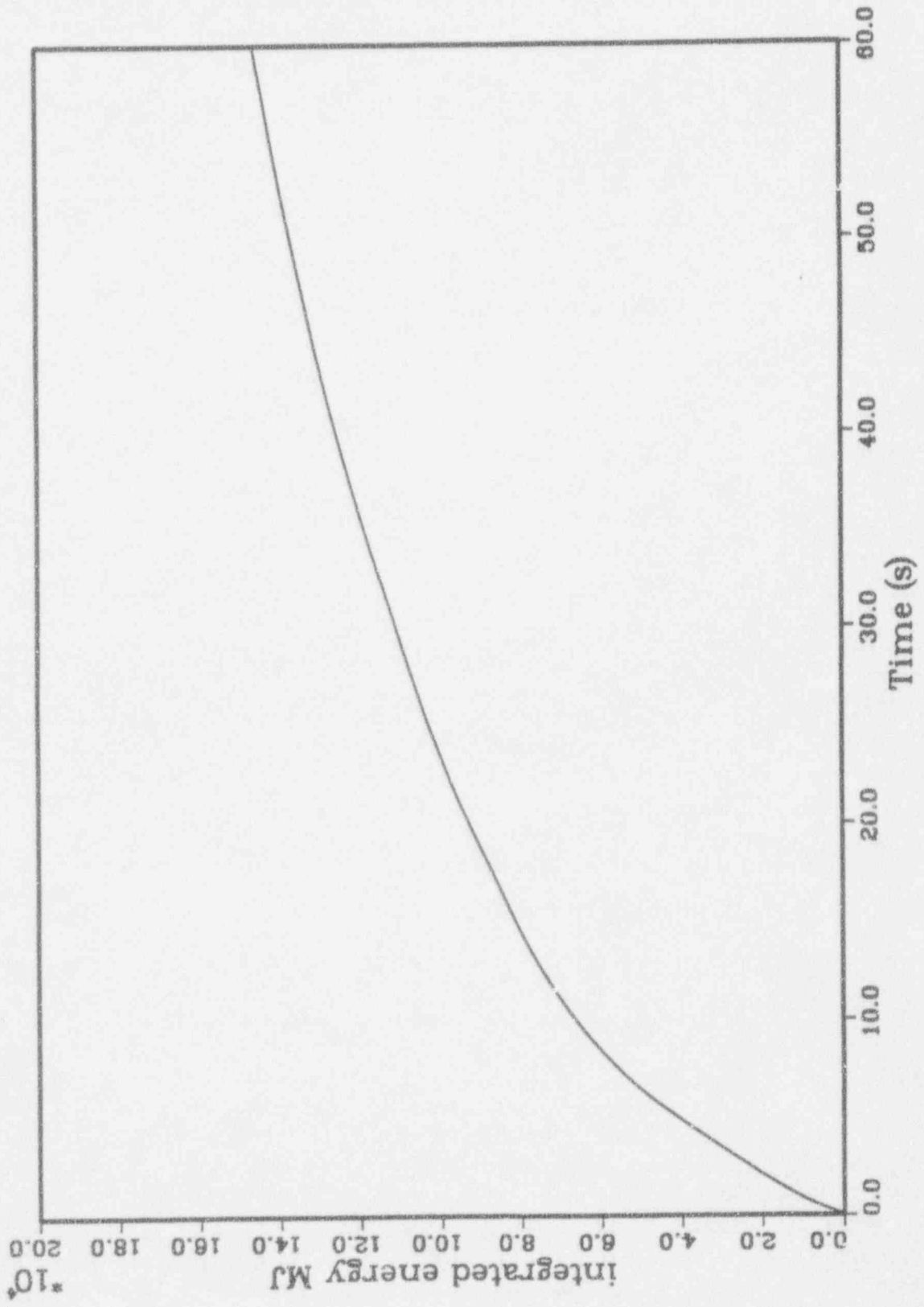


FIGURE 3.14 EARLY CORE DISASSEMBLY - FUEL ELEMENT ENERGY CONTENT VERSUS TIME FOR VARIOUS ELEMENT POWERS

# 100%ROH break





# 100% Outlet Header Break

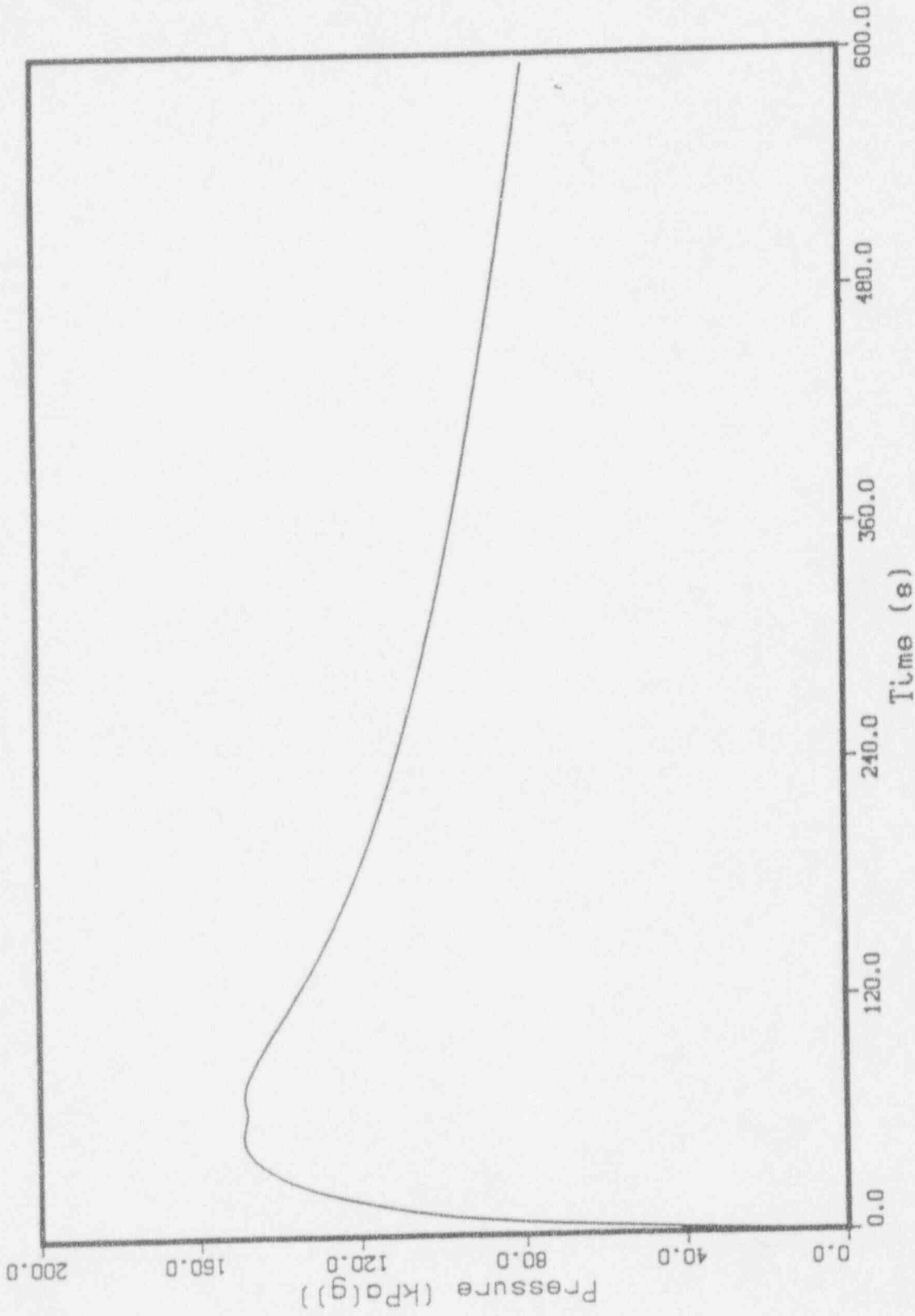
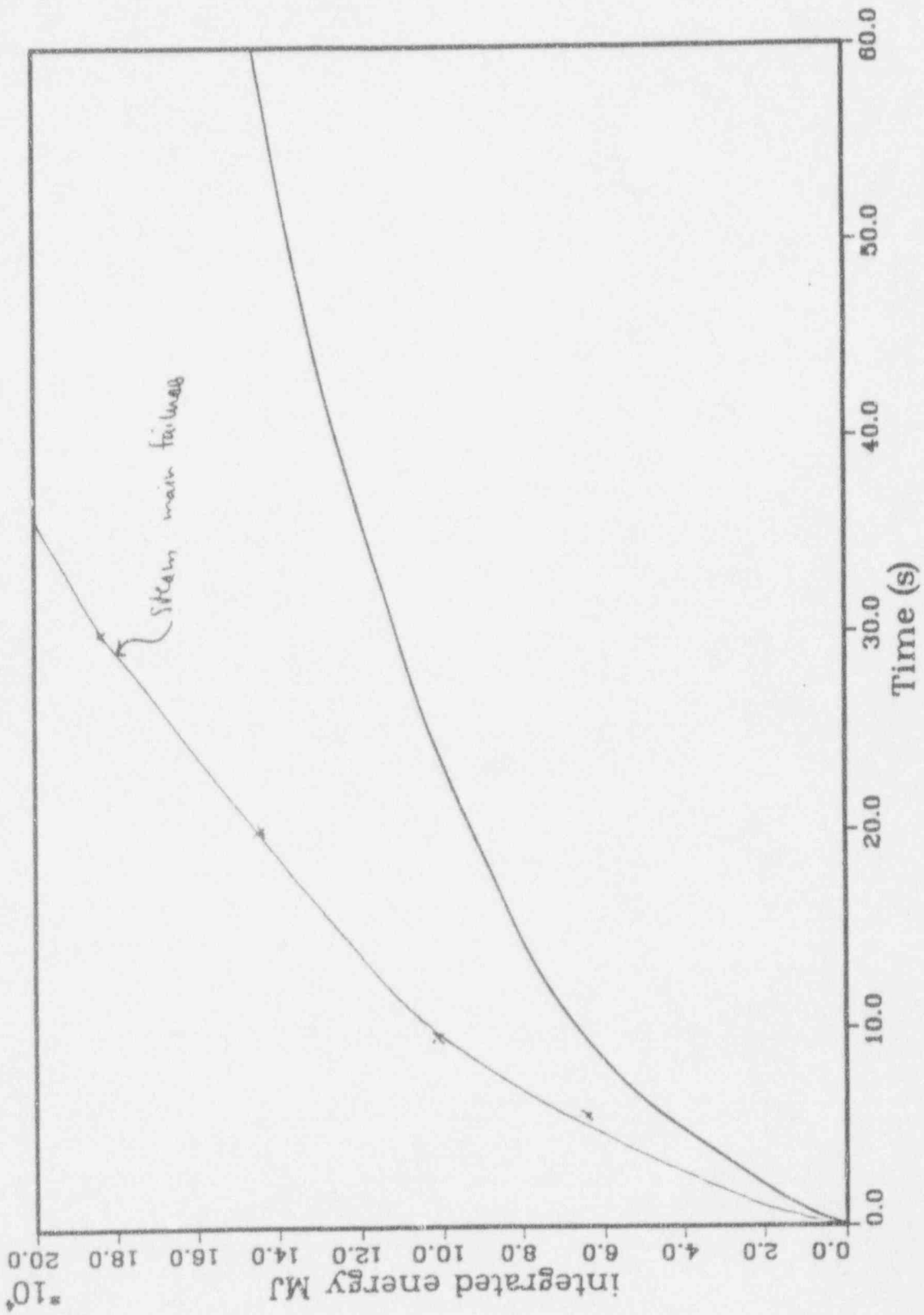


Figure 2.1-280: Accessible Area Pressure Transient  
2.1-280 100% Outlet Header Break  
Short Term

100%ROH break



# 100% STEAM LINE BREAK INSIDE CONTAINMENT

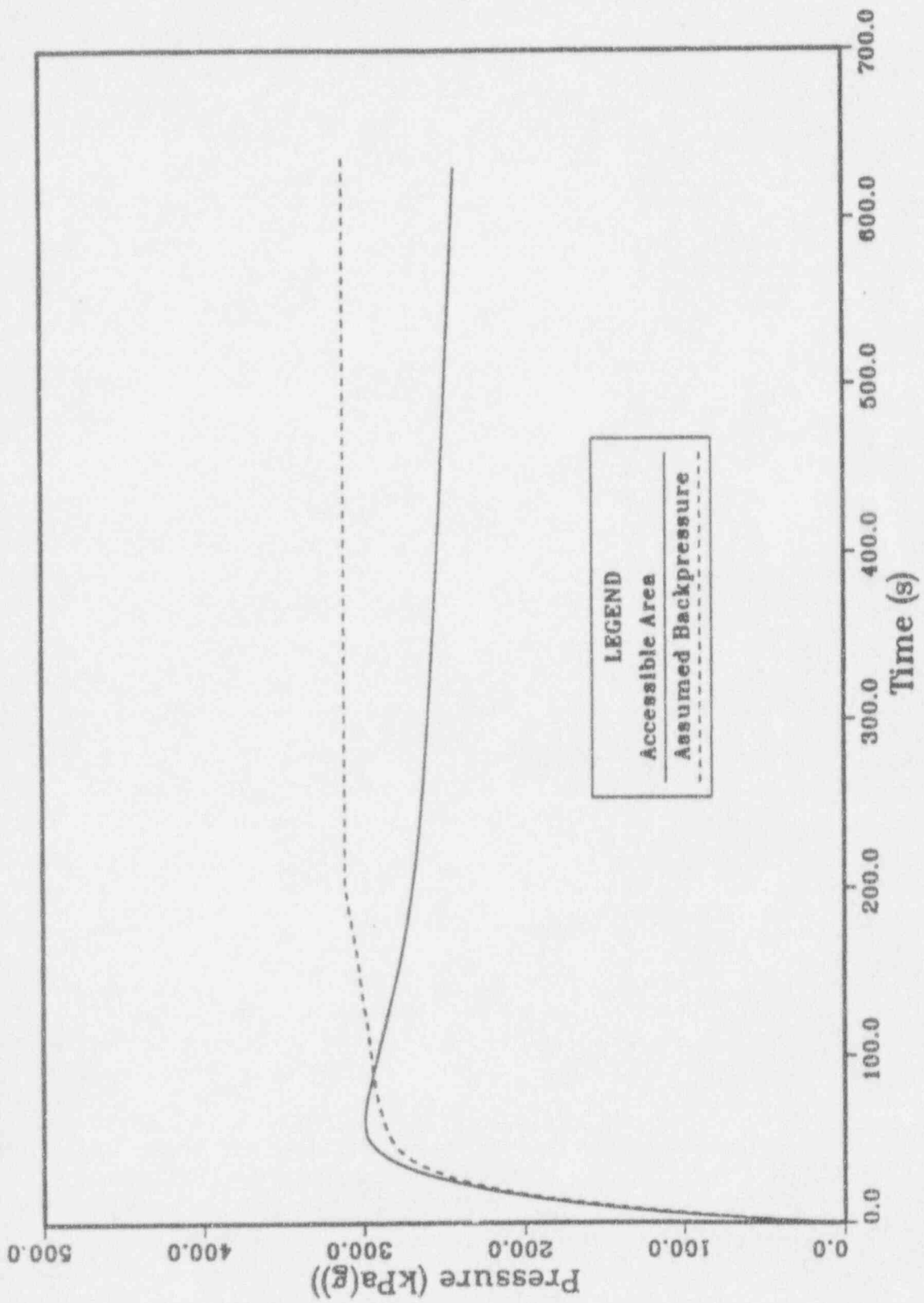
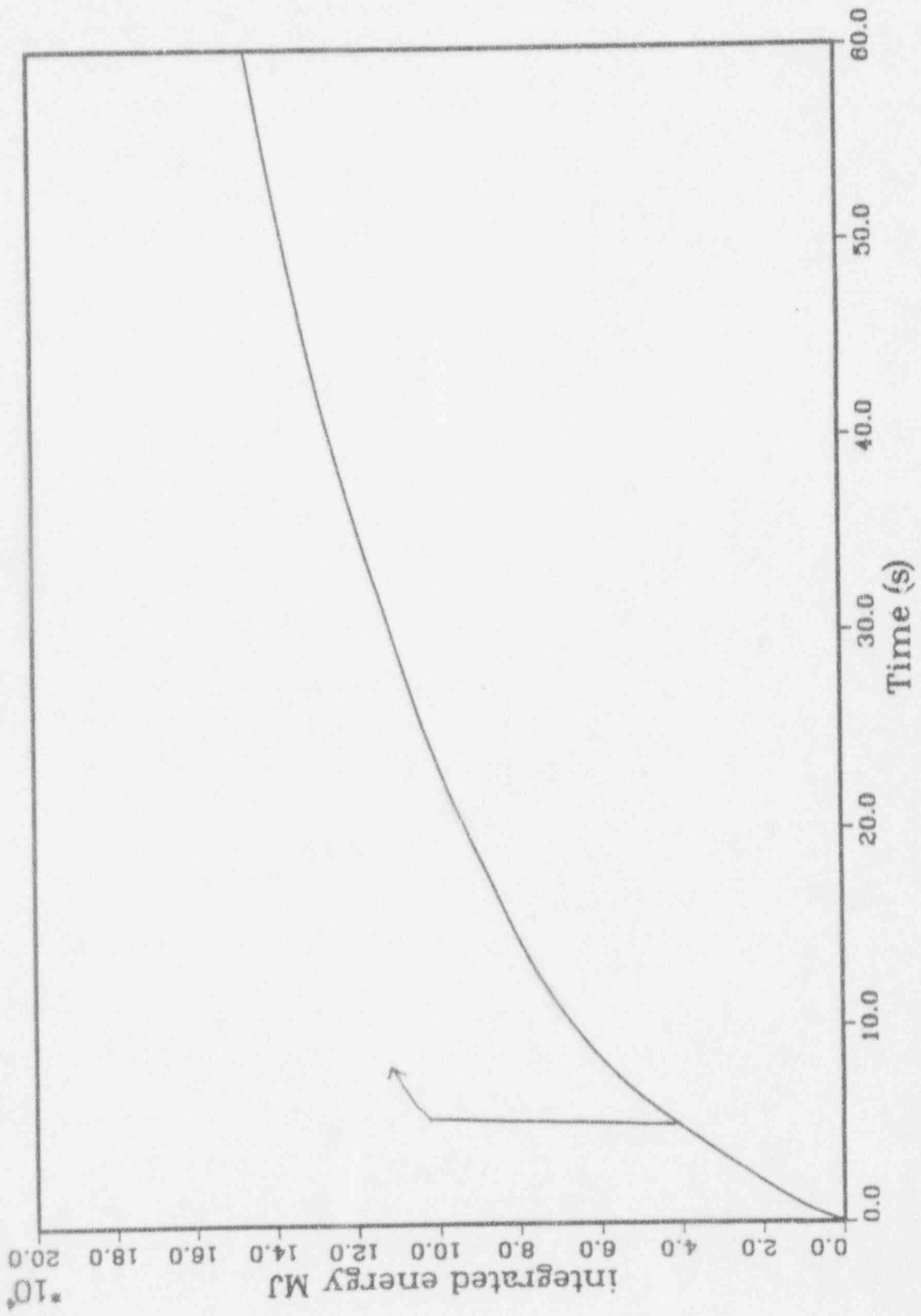
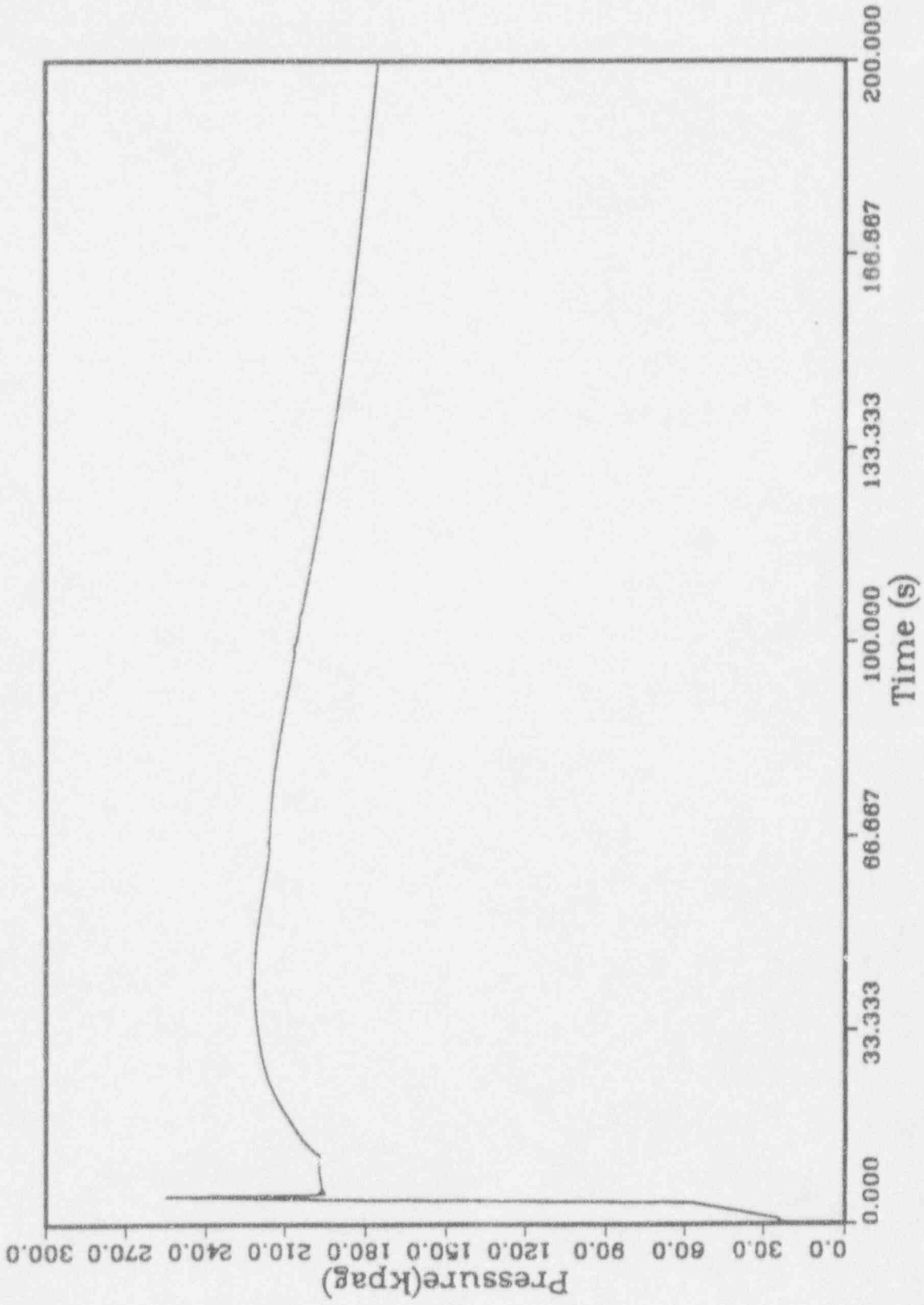


Figure 6.4-13: Case 4  
Reactor Building Pressure

# 100%ROH break



# 100%ROH break





AECL

EACL

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AECL CANDU

EACL CANDU

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## ACCIDENTS W/O SCRAM SUMMARY

- frequency consistent with residual risk ( $<1E-7$ )
- energy available for rapid transfer to containment atmosphere is limited

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CANDU 3

## CONCLUSIONS

- as in all reactors, uncompensated reactivity accidents can lead to core damage
- time scale relatively slow in CANDU
- design approach has been to prevent with dual demonstrably reliable shutdown systems
- CANDU "fuse" inherently limits the energy available