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February 16, 2012

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555 Attention: Document Control Desk

Subject: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 2 Docket Number 50-270 Unit 2 Cycle 26 Startup Testing Report

Pursuant to the requirements in Section 16.13.9, "Startup Report," from the Selected Licensee Commitments Manual, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC hereby submits to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) the Oconee Nuclear Station Unit 2, Cycle 26 (O2C26) Startup Testing Report. The premise of the report is to provide the Staff with the satisfactory results from the O2C26 startup tests that incorporates the stations' first 24-month cycle, full core loading of AREVA Mark B-HTP fuel, and first cycle to contain fuel with Gadolinia in batch quantities.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Kent Alter, Oconee Regulatory Compliance Group, at (864) 873-3255.

This letter and its attachment do not contain NRC commitments.

Sincerely,

TPGILESPIE T. Preston Gillespie, Jr. Vice President Oconee Nuclear Station

Attachment

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission February 16, 2012 Page 2

cc: (w/attachment)

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DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION OCONEE 2 CYCLE 26 (O2C26) STARTUP TESTING REPORT

.

Part 1: Fuel and Core Design Part 2: Zero Power Physics Test Part 3: Power Escalation Test

Prepared by: Nicolas Hernandez Date: February 9, 2012

OCONEE 2 CYCLE 26 Startup Testing Report Table of Contents

	Part 1: Fuel and Core Design	
Section		Page
1.0	Summary	1
Figure 1	O2C26 Final Core Load Map	3
Figure 2	Rod Type Axial Profiles with Enrichment Table for Oconee 2 Batch 28	4
Figure 3	Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28A	6
Figure 4	Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28B	7
Figure 5	Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28C	8
Figure 6	Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28D	9
Figure 7	Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28E	10
	Part 2: Zero Power Physics Test	
2.0	Introduction and Summary	11
2.1	Approach to Criticality	11
2.2	Pre-Physics Measurements	12
2.3	Physics Testing	12
	Part 3: Power Escalation Test	
3.0	Introduction and Summary	14
3.1	NSSS Heat Balance/ RCS Flow Verification	14
3.2	Core Power Distribution	15
3.3	Power Imbalance Detector Correlation	15
3.4	All Rods Out Critical Boron Measurement at Power	16
	Enclosures	
1.0	All-Rods-Out Critical Boron Concentration and Differential Boron Worth	17
	Results	
2.0	Integral Group Rod Worth Measurements	18
3.0	Reactivity Coefficients	19
4.0	NSSS Heat Balance/ RCS Flow Verification	20
5.0	Radial Peaking Factor Comparison at IMPT	21
5.1	Total Peaking Factor Comparison at IMPT	22
5.2	Radial Peaking Factor Comparison at FPT	23
5.3	Total Peaking Factor Comparison at FPT	24
6.0	Core Power Distribution Data Summary at IMPT and FPT	25
7.0	Core Symmetry Results at LPT	26
8.0	Evaluation of Group 6 Rod Worths Failing to Meet Review Criteria	27

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 1: Fuel and Core Design

1.0 <u>Summary</u>

The Unit 2 Cycle 26 (O2C26) core consists of 177 Mk B-HTP fuel assemblies, each of which is a 15 by 15 array containing 208 fuel rods, 16 guide tubes and one incore instrument guide tube. The fuel consists of dished-end, cylindrical pellets of uranium dioxide. Both the reinserted fuel and fresh fuel are clad in M5 and have M5 guide tubes. The O2C26 fuel assemblies have nominal fuel loading of 490 kg uranium, with minor reductions in batches with Gadolinium content. The fresh fuel is not radially enrichment zoned.

The O2C26 core loading for this cycle consists of the following:

32 fresh Mk B-HTP fuel assemblies with 4.33 wt% U-235 (designated Batch 28A).

40 fresh Mk B-HTP fuel assemblies with 4.53 wt% U-235 each with various Gadolinia (Gad) loadings and layouts (designated Batches 28B, 28C, 28D, 28E). Description of the Gadolinia assemblies is provided in figures 2-7.

32 reinserted Mk B-HTP fuel assemblies with 3.76 wt% U-235 each containing 16 radially zoned reduced enrichment fuel pins at 3.46 wt% U-235 (designated Batch 27A)

36 reinserted Mk B-HTP fuel assemblies with 4.16 wt% U-235 each containing 16 radially zoned reduced enrichment fuel pins at 3.86 wt% U-235 (designated Batch 27B)

37 reinserted Mk B-HTP fuel assemblies with 3.33 wt% U-235 each containing 16 radial zoned reduced enrichment fuel pins at 3.03 wt% U-235 (designated Batch 26C)

Figure 1 shows the batch loading pattern.

All non-Gad pins have 6.05 inch blanket regions (top and bottom) enriched to 2.50 wt% U-235. All Gad pins have 9.9 inch blanket regions (top and bottom) enriched to 2.50 wt% U-235. The core periphery is composed of Batch 27A and 26C assemblies. All batches of fuel assemblies are distributed throughout the core interior including a Batch 26C fuel assembly that is located in the center of the core. No fuel assemblies or burnable poison rods from the spent fuel pool are being used in O2C26.

Cycle 26 will operate in a rods-out, feed and bleed mode. Core reactivity control is supplied mainly by soluble boron and is supplemented by 61 full length Ag-In-Cd control rods, Gadolinia which is incorporated into some of the fuel pellets, & 40 burnable poison rod assemblies (BPRAs). In addition to the full length control rods, eight Inconel (gray) axial shaping rods (APSRs) are provided for additional control of the axial power distribution.

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 1: Fuel and Core Design

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 is the first 24 Month Cycle at Oconee. It also is the first full core at Oconee made up entirely of Mk-B-HTP fuel and the first Oconee cycle to contain fuel with Gadolinia in batch quantities. Twenty-four (24) Month Cycle designs allow the three-unit Oconee site to reduce refueling outages by one every other year, resulting in a significant cost savings.

Twenty-four (24) Month Cycle designs generally require more feed assemblies than 18 month designs. To design an efficient 24 Month Cycle, Gadolinia integral burnable absorber is necessary to allow feed fuel assemblies to reside in control rod locations. This allows movement of the feed fuel away from the core periphery and reduces the cycle leakage. To obtain more accurate calculation results for Gadolinia, the CASMO-3 code was upgraded to the newer version CASMO-4. License Amendment Requests (LARs) for the transition to Gadolinia and CASMO-4 were submitted, and both were approved prior to cycle startup. The ability to operate the cycle for its full 24 month design life is dependent upon NRC approval of an LAR currently under their review.

Twenty-four (24) Month Cycles with Gadolinia and CASMO-4 code methods are scheduled for all three Oconee Units.

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 1: Fuel and Core Design Figure 1: O2C26 Final Core Load Map

ONEI-0400-63 (Rev. 19) Page 5 of 5

(3)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	-	\$	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
R	1		- <u> </u>	1	. <u></u>	26C	26C	27A	26C	26C		1	1	1	
	l				1 200	NUOALD					200	200	1	1	1
P				26C	26C	C33D 28B	28D	C2FV 27B	28D	C33E 28B	26C	26C		1	tool Yange
-	İ	İ		NJOAL9	NJ0AL3	UDNA33	UDNA64		UDNA39	and the second second	NJOAKW	NJOAMI		1	
	1	1	26C	28B	28E	28C	27A	28A	27A	28C	28E	28B	26C	l i	
0					C33P	BF23	C334	BFIG	C33G	BF1X	C33R	1000000			
	1	200	28B NJOALG				28A NJODGH	27A UDNA28	28A NJ0DG9	UDNA51	UDNA67		28B NUOAKE	200	L
N		26C	28B	C2DJ 27B	27B	A08E	BFIU	C2DK	BFIM	A08C 27B	27B	C2DL 27B	100	26C	
	Î	NJOAKD	UDNA41		NJODJK	NJODJI	UDNA25		UDNA14		NJ0DJ6	NJODJG	UDNA42	NJOAKT	
	1	26C	28E	27B	27A	28A	27B	27B	27B	28A	27A	27B	28E	26C	
м		NUCKER	C33M	NUME	C2FK	BF12	C2D3	NOUDAD	C2D4	BFIH	C2FL	MUNICIPALITY	C33N	NJ0AL5	
	26C	28B NUOALP	28C UDNA71	27B NJODHE	28A NJODGA	27A UDNA04	28A NJCDJ2	27A NJ0DHD	28A NJODJA	27A UDNA11	28A NJODGM	27B NJODHT	28C UDNA65	28B	26
L		C33A	BF22	A08F	BF16	C2FT	BFOX	C2FM	BF1D	C2FU	BF13	A08D	BFIV	C33C	
	NJOALN	UDNA43	UDNASS		UDNA17	NJODGR	UDNA26			NJODGP	UDNA30	NJODH9	UDNA49	UDNA44	
K	26C	28D	C2FH 27A	BF1T 28A	C2D1 27B	BF19 28A	C2DA 27A	BFOW 28A	C2DC 27A	BF14 28A	C2D2 27B	BF1K 28A	C2FJ 27A	28D	26
-	NJOALR	UDNA63	NJ0DG4	Contraction Contraction		UDNA27	NIODGL	UDNA21		UDNA32	NJODHL	UDNA30		UDNA37	NJ0.
	27A	27B	28A	27A	27B	27A	28A	26C	28A	27A	27B	27A	28A	27B	27
H (C2FP	BFIC	C2DG		C2D8	BFOU	C339	BFOV	C2D9		C2DH	BF18	C2FR	
	NJODGT	NJODJC	UDNA01		27B NJODHW	28A NJODGV	UDNA22	NJOALJ	UDNA08	28A NJ0DG2	NJODHK	NJODGD	UDNA07	NJODJS	20 NJ0I
G	26C	28D	C2FF 27A	BF1P 28A	C2BU 27B	BF11 28A	C2D6 27A	BF0T 28A	C2D7 27A	BF1A 28A	C2BV 27B	BFIR 28A	C2FG 27A	28D	26
اري.	NJOALA	UDNA51	NJ0DG3	UDNA19	NJODHC	Contraction of Contra	NICOGW	UDNA16	A REPORT OF COMPANY	UDNA09	NJODJJ	UDNA12	NJODH4	UDNA62	NJO.
	26C	28B	28C	27B	28A	27A	28A	27A	28A	27A	28A	27B	28C	28B	26
F		C335	BF20	A08G	BFIE	C2F8	BFIF	C2D5	BFOY	C2FN	BFIJ	A08J	BF21	C336	
	NJ0AM3	UDNA48	UDNA53	NUCDER	UDNA02	NJODGJ	UDNA31	NJODH3	UDNA05	ZOA NJODG6	UDNA18	27B NJØDJE	UDNA54	UDNA36	NJOA
E		26C	C33K 28E	27B	C2FD 27A	BF15 28A	C2BN 27B	27B	C2BT 27B	BF17 28A	C2FE 27A	27B	C33L 28E	26C	
		NJØALC	UDNA69	NJODHG	NJODGN	UDNA23	NJODHJ	NJODHX	NJ0DJ3	UDNA24	NIODGG	NJODHM	UDNA70	NJOALH	
		26C	28B	27B	27B	27B	28A	27A	28A	27B	27B	27B	28B	26C	
D			201001	C2DD		A08H	BFIL	C2DE	BFIN	A08A		C2DF			
	ſ	NJOAK6	26C UDNA47	28B NJ0DJ0	28E NJ0DJH	28C NJODH6	27A UDNA10	28A NJ0DG1	27A UDNA13	28C NJODHN	28E NJODHP	28B N30D39	26C	NJOALM	
С			250		C33H	BFIW	C2FA	BF10	C2FC	BFIY	C33J	200	-		
		1	NJ0AL1			UDNASO	NJODHO	UDNA03	NJ0DH5	UDNA 52	UDNA68	UDNA46	NJ0AL2		
۵				26C	26C	28B	28D	27B	28D	28B	26C	26C			
				NJOALW	NJ0AM5	C29R	UDNASS	NJODHH C2F7	UDNA60	C2GE	NJOAKH	NJ0AM9			
						26C	26C	27A	26C	26C					
A									NJOAMO						
÷															

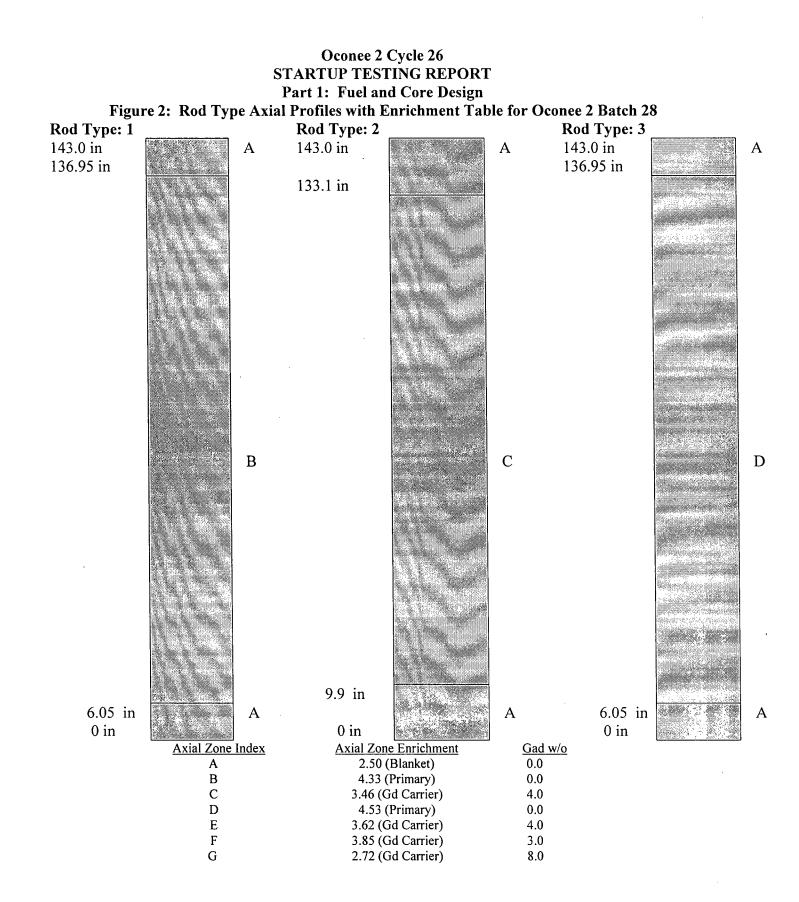
Figure 1 Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Final Core Load Map

Note: All fuel batches are Mk-B-HTP fuel assemblies.

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** All BPRAs are Mk-B5: AS ME PAR-BD. BFOT - BFOW - 2.50 wt% B4C BFRA BFOX - BF1J - 3.00 wt% B4C BFRA BF1K - BF23 - 3.50 wt% B4C BFRA

Note: Fresh fuel assemblies are shaded. All other fuel assemblies are from O2C25



Page 4 of 27

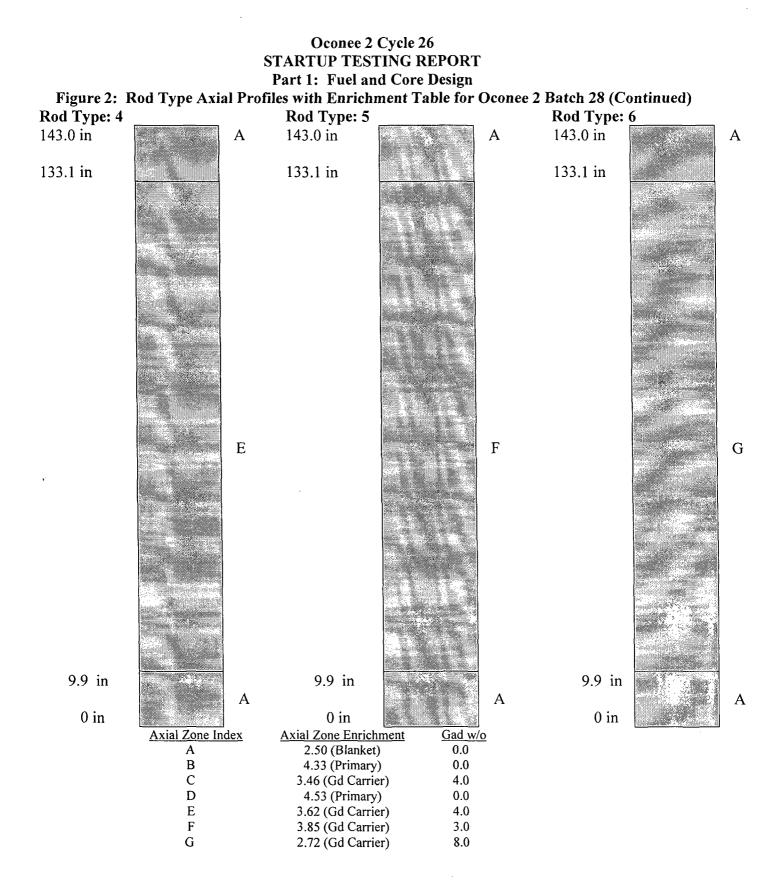


			Figure	3: 00			l and C e 26 Ro		esign oe Map	, Batc	h 28A			
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1		1	1		1	1	1		1	1		1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	2	1	1		1	1	2	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1		1	1		1	1	1		1	1		1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1
1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	<u>,</u> 2	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 1: Fuel and Core Design Figure 3: Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28A



"BPRA" rod (2.5, 3.0 or $3.5 \text{ w/o } B_4C$)

Note: Rod type numbers are defined in Figure 2.

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Oconee 2 Cycle 26
STARTUP TESTING REPORT
Part 1: Fuel and Core Design
Figure 4: Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28B

					-									
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	3
3	3	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	, 3	3
3	3	3	3	-5	3	3		3	3	5	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	-5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	3	3
3	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

NO BPRA

Note: Rod type numbers are defined in Figure 2.

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Figure 5: Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28C														
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3
3	3	3	3	3		3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3	3	3		3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3		3	3		3	3	3		3	3		3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	-4	3	3		3	3	4	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3		3	3		3	3	3		3	3		3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3	3	3		3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3		3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3
3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 1: Fuel and Core Design Figure 5: Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28C

Note: Rod type numbers are defined in Figure 2.

"BPRA" rod $(3.5 \text{ w/o } B_4\text{C})$

	Figure 6: Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28D													
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	4	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	4	3	3
3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3
3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	4	3	3	3		3	3	3	4	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3
3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3
3	3	4	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	4	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 1: Fuel and Core Design Figure 6: Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28D

NO BPRA

Note: Rod type numbers are defined in Figure 2.

Oconee 2 Cycle 26
STARTUP TESTING REPORT
Part 1: Fuel and Core Design
Figure 7: Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Rod Type Map, Batch 28E

	T	T		Ĭ						I				
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3
3	3	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3
3	4	3	3	6	3	3	6	3	3	6	3	3	4	3
3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	6	3	3		3	3	6	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3
3	4	3	3	6	3	3	6	3	3	6	3	3	- 4	3
3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	\bigcirc	3	3	3	3	3
3	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

NO BPRA

Note: Rod type numbers are defined in Figure 2.

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Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 2: Zero Power Physics Test

2.0 Introduction and Summary

The Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Zero Power Physics Test (ZPPT) was conducted from November 16 through 17, 2011, per station procedure PT/0/A/0711/001 (title?). This testing was conducted to verify the nuclear parameters upon which the Oconee 2 Cycle 26 core design, safety analysis and Technical Specifications are based.

Zero Power Physics Testing measurements were made with reactor power, Reactor Coolant System (RCS) pressure and RCS temperature as required by procedure. The following nuclear parameters were measured:

- (a) All-Rods-Out Critical Boron Concentration (Enclosure 1.0)
- (b) Differential Boron Worth (Enclosure 1.0)
- (c) Integral Rod Worth for Control Rod Groups 6 and 7 (Enclosure 2.0)
- (d) Temperature and Moderator Coefficients of Reactivity (Enclosure 3.0)

The AREVA Reactivity Measurement and Analysis System (RMAS) was used to record Reactor Coolant System (RCS) temperature, wide range power levels and control rod positions. Reactivity was calculated by the RMAS computer.

On November 17th, 2011 at 23:22, ZPPT was declared complete. All acceptance criteria were met.

2.1 Approach to Criticality

The full RCS temperature and pressure necessary for unit startup were achieved and rod withdrawal for the Control Rod Drive Trip Time Test (CRDTTT) began at 21:31 on November 16th, 2011. The CRDTTT was performed at Mode 3, hot standby conditions (>250°F and > 1% Δ k/k shutdown) per station procedure PT/0/A/0300/001. Each control rod group was individually withdrawn. The CRDTTT was satisfactorily completed at 00:15 on November 17, 2011.

Rod withdrawal for approach to criticality began on November 17, 2011 at 08:07. The estimated critical position was calculated to be Group 7 at 77% per station procedure PT/2/A/1103/015. Criticality was achieved at 13:11 on November 17, 2011 with rod Groups 1-6 at 100% wd (withdrawn), Group 7 at 79.41% wd, Group 8 at 35% wd, an RCS average temperature of 532 °F, and an RCS boron concentration of 1952 ppmB.

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 2: Zero Power Physics Test

2.2 Pre-Physics Measurements

After establishing stable conditions with the reactor critical, reactor power was slowly increased to perform the reactimeter checkout and approach the Point Of Adding sensible Heat (POAH). The POAH was found to be 0.123% FP. From the sensible heat determination, the upper testing limit on the wide range NIs (as indicated on the Control Room Chart Recorder) was established for ZPPT.

An on-line OAC reactimeter checkout was performed for both a positive and negative power ramp. The positive ramp involved a reactivity change of $+530 \ \mu\rho$ and the measured doubling times were within 1.34% of the predicted doubling times. The negative ramp involved a reactivity change of about -281 $\mu\rho$ and the measured doubling times were within 1.20% of the predicted doubling times. The measured doubling times were within the $\pm 5\%$ acceptance criteria for the positive ramp and the $\pm 7\%$ acceptance criteria for the negative ramp.

2.3 Physics Testing

A. Essentially All Rods Out (EARO) Boron Concentration Measurement

The RCS EARO boron concentration was calculated starting from a configuration of Groups 1-6 at 100% wd, Group 7 at 76.7% wd, and APSR Group 8 at 35% wd. The control rods were moved to their essentially all rods out position (Groups 1-6 at 100% wd, Group 7 at 80%, Group 8 at 35% wd) and the associated reactivity change was converted to a boron equivalent in ppmB. The all rods out boron concentration was then calculated and verified to be within procedure acceptance criteria. Refer to Enclosure 1.0 for more detailed results.

B. <u>Reactivity Coefficient Measurements</u>

The temperature coefficient measurement was made while maintaining equilibrium boron concentration in the RCS, with control rod Group 7 withdrawn to 76.6% wd and with APSR Group 8 at 35% wd. This test measured the reactivity change associated with a ramp increase in RCS temperature of approximately $3.22 \,^{\circ}$ F and a subsequent decrease of $3.56 \,^{\circ}$ F. The data from the two temperature ramps was averaged using the Δ T magnitudes as weighting factors. The change in reactivity was divided by the change in RCS temperature to calculate the temperature coefficient. The measured temperature coefficient was corrected for the difference in RCS average test temperature and reference temperature (532 $^{\circ}$ F). The moderator temperature coefficient was calculated by subtracting the predicted Doppler coefficient from the measured isothermal temperature coefficient. The isothermal and moderator temperature coefficient were verified to be within the procedure acceptance criteria. Refer to Enclosure 3.0 for more detailed results.

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 2: Zero Power Physics Test

C. Control Rod Integral Worths and Differential Boron Worth Measurement

The worth of Group 7 from 76.6 to 80% wd was measured during the EARO test. The remaining worth of Group 7 and all of Group 6 was measured by steadily deborating the RCS and compensating for the resulting positive reactivity addition by inserting control rods from 76.6% wd on Group 7 to 0% wd on Group 6 (with no rod overlap). The reactivity changes resulting from the discrete control rod insertions were summed for each group to obtain the group integral rod worth. Each of the measured groups passed their individual acceptance criteria and total rod worth (group 7's worth and group 6's worth added together) passed its acceptance criteria. Refer to Enclosure 2.0 for more detailed results.

The differential boron worth was calculated by dividing the rod worths of the measured groups inserted between the initial and final boron samples by the corresponding change in RCS boron concentration. The initial value for the boron concentration was recorded at EARO critical equilibrium conditions. The final value of boron concentration was recorded as reactivity approached steady-state. The measured differential boron worth met procedure acceptance criteria. Refer to Enclosure 1.0 for more detailed results.

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 3: Power Escalation Test

3.0 Introduction and Summary

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The Oconee 2 Cycle 26 Power Escalation Test was performed between November 18, 2011 and November 21, 2011 per station procedure PT/0/A/0811/001. Testing was performed at ~20% Full Power (FP), 40% FP, 50% FP, 73% FP and 100% FP to verify nuclear parameters upon which the Oconee 2 Cycle 26 core design, safety analysis and Technical Specifications are based. The following tests and verifications were performed:

- (a) Initial Core Symmetry Check at 20% FP (Enclosure 7.0);
- (b) NSSS Heat Balance at 20% FP, 73% FP, and 100% FP (Enclosure 4.0);
- (c) Incore Detector Checkout at 11% FP, 40% FP, and 100% FP;
- (d) Power Imbalance Detector Correlation Slope Measurement at 73% FP;
- (e) Core Power Distribution at 50% FP, and 100% FP (Enclosures 5.0 through 5.3 and 6.0);
- (f) All-Rods-Out Critical Boron Concentration at 100% FP (Enclosure 1.0).

The unit reached the Low Power Testing (LPT) plateau at 01:14 on November 18, 2011. Testing at the LPT plateau was completed at 00:57 on 11/19/11. The unit reached the Intermediate Power Testing (IMPT) plateau at 17:28 on 11/19/11. Testing at the IMPT plateau was completed at 01:00 on 11/20/11. The unit reached the Full Power Testing (FPT) plateau at 14:06 on 11/20/11. Full Power Testing (FPT), consisting of Incore Detector Checkout, Core Power Distribution, NSSS Heat Balance, All-Rods-Out Critical Boron, RCS Flow Calculation/Calibration, and update of the RPS RCS Reference Flow was performed at this plateau. FPT was concluded at 12:00 on 11/21/11. Power Escalation Testing was declared complete at 12:00 on 11/21/11.

3.1 NSSS Heat Balance/RCS Flow Verification

Off-line (non-OAC) secondary heat balance calculations were performed at 20% FP, 73% FP and 100% FP. An off-line primary heat balance was performed at 100% FP. These tests verified the accuracy of the on-line primary and secondary-side heat balance calculations. On-line calculations are another term for calculations performed by the OAC (operator aid computer) or plant computer program. The plant on-line computer accuracy was verified by performing an off-line calculation using the same inputs that feed the on-line computer. The on-line and off-line results were compared for the same period, and verified to agree within 2% FP. This same method was used to verify that RCS flow was

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 3: Power Escalation Test

greater than the required flow per the Core Operating Limits Report (COLR). Normalization of the plant computer RCS flow constants (used to calculate flow from the primary delta-P instrumentation) was performed during FPT and the on-line power calculations were then verified to agree within 2% FP. Refer to Enclosure 4.0 for more detailed results.

3.2 Initial Core Symmetry Check and Core Power Distribution

Initial Core Symmetry Check was conducted at 20%. Core Power Distribution tests were conducted at 50% FP and at 100% FP. These tests verified that reactor power imbalance, quadrant power tilt and radial/total power peaks did not exceed their respective specified limits.

Specific checks were made as follows:

Incore imbalance was compared to the error adjusted imbalance LOCA limit curve and was verified to be within specified limits (based on Core Operating Limits Report).

The maximum positive quadrant power tilt was verified to be less than the error adjusted Core Operating Limits Report limit.

As a prerequisite to performing these tests, PT/0/A/0302/006 (Review and Control of Incore Instrumentation Signals) was performed at 11% FP, 40% FP and 100% FP to identify and evaluate erroneous Self Powered Neutron Detector signals.

The results of the initial core symmetry check which occurred at 20% FP can be found in Enclosure 7.0. It can be seen quite clearly that all core symmetric location power comparison deviations are less than 8% and therefore no further evaluation was needed.

The core power distribution tests measure and compare the predicted values of radial and total peaking factors at 50% FP and 100% FP. All acceptance criteria were satisfied. Refer to Enclosures 5.0 - 5.3 along with Enclosure 6.0 for more detailed results.

3.3 Power Imbalance Detector Correlation

The Power Imbalance Detector Correlation was performed at 73% FP. The purpose of this test was to measure the excore to incore power imbalance correlation slopes for NI Channels 5, 6, 7, and 8, and to verify these slopes met acceptance criteria.

The excore/incore imbalance correlation slope for each NI Channel (5-8) was determined by a least squares fit of excore to incore imbalance indications. A total of 19 incore

Oconee 2 Cycle 26 STARTUP TESTING REPORT Part 3: Power Escalation Test

imbalance points which ranged between -9.90% and +4.08% FP were used. All the slopes were verified to meet acceptance criteria.

3.4 <u>All Rods Out Critical Boron Measurement at Power</u>

The All Rods Out Critical Boron at Power measurement was made at 100% FP, and the difference between measured and predicted reactivity (in terms of ppmB) was verified to be acceptable. Refer to Enclosure 1.0 for more detailed results.

ALL-RODS-OUT CRITICAL BORON CONCENTRATION AND DIFFERENTIAL BORON WORTH RESULTS

	Zero Power ARO Critical Boron Concentration	At-Power ARO Critical Boron Concentration	Differential Boron Worth
CONDITIONS	Initial Critical 0 EFPD Gp 7 @ 76.7% wd Gp 8 @ 35% wd 1952 ppmB @ EARO	100% FP 1.3 EFPD Gp 7 @ 87.7% wd Gp 8 @ 35% wd 1444 ppmB	Initial State: Gp 7 @ 77% wd Gp 8 @ 35% wd 1952 ppmB Final State: Gp 4 @ 100% wd Gp 5 @ 78% wd Gp 8 @ 35% wd 1699 ppmB
MEASURED VALUE	1977 ppmB @ ARO	1391 ppmB	-0.00669 % ^{Δk} / _{k ppmB}
PREDICTED VALUE	1974 ppmB @ ARO	1398 ppmB	-0.00665 % ^{Δk} / _{k ppmB}
DEVIATION	-3 ppmB	-7 ppmB	-0.67%*
ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA	Predicted ± 50 ppmB	Predicted ± 50 ppmB	<u>+</u> 15% dev. from predicted

* (Predicted – Measured) * 100

Measured

INTEGRAL GROUP ROD WORTH MEASUREMENTS

PARAMETER	MEASURED VALUE (%Δk/k)	PREDICTED VALUE (%Δk/k)	DEVIATION [*] (%)	ACCEPTANCE CRITERION
Gp 7 Integral Worth	-0.9140	-0.8930	-2.3	\pm 15% Deviation
Gp 6 Integral Worth	-0.8223	-0.9140	+11.1	\pm 15% Deviation
Gp 6&7 Integral Worth	-1.7364	-1.8070	+4.1	\pm 10% Deviation

* % Dev. = Predicted - Measured * 100

Measured

REACTIVITY COEFFICIENTS

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MEASURED VALUE	PREDICTED VALUE	DEVIATION (Meas-Pred)	ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA
Hot Zero Power Temperature Coefficient (ARO)	T _{ave} =534.1 F Gp 7 @ 76.6% wd Gp 8 @ 35% wd 1952 ppmB	-0.15373 Ε-4 <u>Δk</u> k ^o F	-0.16140 E-4 <u>∆k</u> k °F	+0.00767 Ε-4 <u>Δk</u> k [°] F	Measured -Predicted = $\pm 0.2E-4 \Delta k$ $k^{\circ}F$
Hot Zero Power Moderator Temperature Coefficient (ARO)	T _{ave} =534.1 F Gp 7 @ 76.6% wd Gp 8 @ 35% wd 1952 ppmB	+0.01090 E-4 <u>Δk</u> k ^o F	+0.00323 E-4 <u>Δk</u> k ^o F	+0.00767 E-4 <u>Δk</u> k ^o F	Measured - Predicted = $\pm 0.2E-4 \Delta k$ $k^{\circ}F$ and Measured $\leq +0.5E-4 \Delta k$ $k^{\circ}F$

NSSS HEAT BALANCE/RCS FLOW VERIFICATION

Test Plateau	Plant Computer Online Primary Power Level (%FP)	Plant Computer Online Sec. Power Level (%FP)	Offline ¹ Calculated Primary Power Level	Offline ¹ Calculated Secondary Power Level	RCS Flow ^{1, 2} (%DF)
LPT	19.98	20.39	19.96	20.31	113.60
IMPT	72.26	72.92	72.32	72.84	112.85
FPT	99.87	99.97	99.92	99.88	112.42

¹Calculated by the online plant computer ²Required to be > Core Operating Limit Report RCS flow of 108.5 % Design Flow (DF)

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		RADIA	<u>al peak</u>	ING FAC	IORS AT	<u>IMP1</u>		
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	1,1,Gp4	2,2	3,4,Gp3	4,10	5,14,Gp7	6,21	7,30,Gp6	8,37
	1.01	1.28	1.25	1.30	1.05	1.15	0.96	0.45
н	0.98	1.24	1.25	1.27	1.04	1.14	0.98	0.45
	2.7%	3.4%	0.1%	2.5%	1.3%	0.6%	-1.6%	-0.4%
		9,3,Gp3	10,6+8	11,Inner,Gp1	12,15+20	13,22+29,Gp5	14,31+36	15,45
		1.22	1.33	1.35	1.24	1.12	1.13	0.39
	K	1.21	1.31	1.34	1.21	1.14	1.13	0.39
		• 0.7%	2.2%	0.6%	2.5%	-1.1%	-0.1%	0.5%
	-		16,12,Gp6	17,17+18	18,24+27,Gp8	19,Outer	20,38+44,Gp4	21,46
Predicted			1.24	1.33	1.22	1.18	1.07	0.29
Measured		L	1.18	1.29	1.24	1.18	1.08	0.30
% Dev			5.4%	3.1%	-1.4%	0.0%	-1.4%	-2.9%
				22,26,Gp5	23,33+34	24,40+42,Gp2	25,49	
				1.23	1.27	1.10	0.49	
			М	1.26	1.27	1.13	0.50	
				-2.0%	0.2%	-2.0%	-2.6%	
					26,41,Gp7	27,48	28,51	
					1.00	0.97	0.27	
				Ν	1.04	1.02	0.28	
					-4.0%	-4.9%	-2.7%	
					29,52			
% Dev. = <u>Predicted - Measured * 100</u>						0.36		
Measured					0	0.39		
						-7.2%		

RADIAL PEAKING FACTORS AT IMPT

Core Conditions

	Power	50 %FP		
	Group 5	100% wd		
	Group 6	100%wd		
	Group 7	55% wd		
	Group 8	36% wd		
	Incore Imbalance	-7.83		
	RCS Boron	1662 ppmB		
Max 1/8 Co	ore % Deviation is +5.4% at L10	Acceptance criteria: <+15% of Predicted		
Min 1/8 Co	ore % Deviation is -7.2% at O13	Acceptance criteria: >-15% of Predicted		
Maximum Peak Deviation is -0.6% at K11		Acceptance Criteria: <+5% of Predicted		
Root Mean Square of Deviations is 2.4%		Acceptance Criteria: <7.5%		

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	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	1,1,Gp4	2,2	3,4,Gp3	4,10	5,14,Gp7	6,21	7,30,Gp6	8,37
	1.20	1.56	1.55	1.71	1.58	1.54	1.26	0.58
н	1.16	1.50	1.58	1.62	1.52	1.54	1.25	0.56
	3.6%	3.7%	-1.8%	5.3%	3.7%	0.3%	1.0%	3.3%
		9,3,Gp3	10,6+8	11, Inner, Gp1	12,15+20	13,22+29,Gp5	14,31+36	15,45
		1.48	1.66	1.74	1.65	1.49	1.49	0.51
	K	1.45	1.64	1.73	1.61	1.49	1.49	0.50
		2.2%	1.4%	0.7%	2.6%	-0.2%	0.2%	1.3%
			16,12,Gp6	17,17+18	18,24+27,Gp8	19,Outer	20,38+44,Gp4	21,46
Predicted			1.56	1.71	1.65	1.57	1.42	0.38
Measured		L	1.48	1.65	1.68	1.55	1.44	0.38
% Dev			5.2%	3.6%	-1.5%	0.9%	-1.4%	-0.4%
				22,26,Gp5	23,33+34	24,40+42,Gp2	25,49	
				1.64	1.75	1.51	0.65	
			M	1.68	1.74	1.55	0.65	
				-2.6%	0.9%	-2.5%	-0.1%	
					26,41,Gp7	27,48	28,51	
					1.57	1.41	0.38	
				N	1.61	1.33	0.40	
					-2.6%	6.3%	-5.5%	
						29,52		
% Dev. = <u>Predicted - Measured * 100</u> Measured						0.52		
					0	0.55		
						-5.0%		

TOTAL PEAKING FACTORS AT IMPT

Core Conditions

	Power	50 %FP		
	Group 5	100% wd		
	Group 6	100%wd		
	Group 7	55% wd		
	Group 8	36% wd		
	Incore Imbalance	-7.83		
	RCS Boron	1662 ppmB		
Max 1/8 Core	e % Deviation is +6.3 % at N13	Acceptance criteria: <+20% of Predicted		
Min 1/8 Core % Deviation is -5.5 % at N14		Acceptance criteria: >-20% of Predicted		
Maximum Pe	eak Deviation is -0.9 % at M12	Acceptance Criteria: <+7.5% of Predicted		

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	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	1,1,Gp4	2,2	3,4,Gp3	4,10	5,14,Gp7	6,21	7,30,Gp6	8,37
	0.95	1.20	1.20	1.29	1.18	1.16	0.96	0.46
н	0.95	1.19	1.22	1.27	1.15	1.16	0.98	0.46
	0.3%	1.2%	-1.8%	1.9%	2.6%	0.4%	-1.5%	0.1%
		9,3,Gp3	10,6+8	11,Inner,Gp1	12,15+20	13,22+29,Gp5	14,31+36	15,45
		1.15	1.27	1.31	1.24	1.12	1.11	0.40
	К	1.17	1.26	1.32	1.21	1.14	1.12	0.39
		-1.0%	0.7%	-0.2%	2.0%	-1.4%	-0.3%	1.7%
	_		16,12,Gp6	17,17+18	18,24+27,Gp8	19,Outer	20,38+44,Gp4	21,46
Predicted			1.19	1.28	1.20	1.16	1.05	0.30
Measured		L	1.15	1.25	1.23	1.16	1.06	0.30
%Dev			4.2%	2.3%	-1.9%	0.4%	-0.7%	-1.5%
	-			22,26,Gp5	23,33+34	24,40+42,Gp2	25,49	
				1.23	1.29	1.12	0.50	
			М	1.26	1.28	1.14	0.52	
				-2.6%	0.5%	-1.4%	-3.0%	
					26,41,Gp7	27,48	28,51	
					1.15	1.04	0.30	
				N	1.18	1.02	0.30	
					-2.7%	1.9%	-2.8%	
						29,52		
% Dev. = <u>P</u>	redicted - M	leasured * 1	00			0.40		
Measured					0	0.44		
						-7.9%		
						·	-	

RADIAL PEAKING FACTORS AT FPT

<u>Core Conditions</u>					
	Power	100 %FP			
	Group 5	100% wd			
	Group 6	100%wd			
	Group 7	91% wd			
	Group 8	35% wd			
	Incore Imbalance	-5.30			
	RCS Boron	1444 ppmB			
Max 1/8 Co	ore % Deviation is +4.2% at L10	Acceptance criteria: <+15% of Predicted			
Min 1/8 Core % Deviation is -7.9% at O13		Acceptance criteria: >-15% of Predicted			
Maximum Peak Deviation is +0.2% at K11		Acceptance Criteria: <+5% of Predicted			
Root Mean	n Square of Deviations is 1.9%	Acceptance Criteria: <7.5%			

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	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	1,1,Gp4	2,2	3,4,Gp3	4,10	5,14,Gp7	6,21	7,30,Gp6	8,37
	1.05	1.33	1.33	1.46	1.35	1.32	1.10	0.52
н	1.03	1.31	1.38	1.44	1.31	1.33	1.12	0.51
	1.9%	1.5%	-3.0%	0.9%	2.7%	-0.4%	-1.3%	1.8%
		9,3,Gp3	10,6+8	11,Inner,Gp1	12,15+20	13,22+29,Gp5	14,31+36	15,45
		1.28	1.41	1.48	1.40	1.28	1.29	0.45
	К	1.27	1.41	1.50	1.38	1.29	1.29	0.45
		0.6%	0.0%	-1.2%	1.8%	-0.8%	0.2%	0.9%
			16,12,Gp6	17,17+18	18,24+27,Gp8	19,Outer	20,38+44,Gp4	21,46
Predicted			1.33	1.45	1.40	1.34	1.23	0.34
Measured		L	1.28	1.41	1.45	1.33	1.24	0.34
%Dev			3.6%	2.4%	-3.7%	0.5%	-1.1%	0.6%
				22,26,Gp5	23,33+34	24,40+42,Gp2	25,49	
				1.40	1.50	1.30	0.57	
			М	1.46	1.49	1.33	0.58	
				-4.2%	0.3%	-2.4%	-1.8%	
					26,41,Gp7	27,48	28,51	
					1.35	1.23	0.34	
				Ν	1.38	1.18	0.35	
					-2.2%	3.9%	-4.0%	
						29,52		
% Dev. = \underline{P}	redicted - M	leasured * 1	00			0.46		
_	Meas				0	0.50		
						-7.4%		

TOTAL PEAKING FACTORS AT FPT

Core Conditions

	Power	100 %FP		
	Group 5	100% wd		
	Group 6	100%wd		
	Group 7	91% wd		
	Group 8	35% wd		
	Incore Imbalance	-5.30		
	RCS Boron	1444 ppmB		
Max 1/8 Core % Deviation is +3.9% at N13		Acceptance criteria: <+20% of Predicted		
Min 1/8 Core % Deviation is -7.4% at O13		Acceptance criteria: >-20% of Predicted		
Maximum Peak Deviation is +0.3% at M12		Acceptance Criteria: <+7.5% of Predicted		

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CORE POWER DISTRIBUTION DATA SUMMARY AT

Power Level (% FP)	50	100
Group 7/8 Positions (% wd)	55/36	91/35
RCS Boron Concentration (ppmB)	1662	1444
Incore Imbalance (% FP)	-7.83	-5.30

IMPT AND FPT PLATEAUS

Core Symmetry Results at LPT

% Deviation= Highest-Lowest/AVG * 100%

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Detector Number	Assembly Power	% Dev	Detector Number	Assembly Power	% Dev
6 8 AVG	3.94 3.97 3.96	0.76	24 27 AVG	3:54 3:59 3:57	1.40
5 7 9 11 13 16 19 25	4.01 3.96 3.93 3.86 3.91 3.95 3.89 3.89 3.89 3.97		23 28 32 35 39 43 47 50	3.36 3.37 3.25 3.24 3.38 3.33 3.35 3.35	•
AVG	3.94	3.81	AVG 44 38 AVG	3.33 3.06 2.96 3.01	4.20
15 20 AVG	3.41 3.36 3.39	1.48	33 34 AVG	3.42 3.51 3.47	2.60
29 22 AVG	3.21 3.17 3.19	1.25	42 40 AVG	3.01 3.05 3.03	1.32
31 36 AVG	3.19 3.12 3.16	2.22			
17 18 AVG	3.76 3.76 3.76	0.00			

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Evaluation of Group 6 Rod Worths Failing to Meet Review Criteria

The following analysis was performed by the General Office Nuclear Design personnel (OND) due to the failure to meet the review criteria of the Group 6 rod worth measurement:

During the O2C26 ZPPT, the group 6 rod worth measurement failed to meet the review criteria of \pm 10%. The acceptance criteria was met. Since the accident analyses for O2C26 apply conservatism to predicted rod worths consistent with the test acceptance criteria of \pm 15%, the failure of the group 6 rod worth measurement to meet the review criteria does not represent a concern with regard to the safety analysis.

However, an examination of various items was conducted to ensure that the group 6 rod worth measurement's failure to meet the review criteria was not a result of another problem or issue.

OND reviewed the predictions for O2C26 and performed comparisons with recent cycles. There were no indications of problems with the computer models currently in use. There is nothing unusual in the fuel assemblies or assembly types which are present in the group 6 locations as compared to the group 7 locations (note that the group 7 measurements met both review and acceptance criteria). The O2C26 rod worth measurement deviations were consistent with what has been observed for recent Unit 2 cycles.

A review of the data which was collected during the rod worth measurements produced the following observations:

- The O1C27 and O3C26 flux data from the testing measurements were much tighter and closer to the top of the test band than O2C26. O2C26 group 6 measurements were taken particularly low in the test band.
- The O2C26 rod pushes in the lower end of Group 7 and 6 started too soon, closer to the bottom of the test band, especially for Group 6.
- The peak differential rod worth for O2C26 shifted downwards from the 40%wd 30%wd range for pre-O2C26 to the 30%wd 20%wd range for O2C26.

Thus, the deviation in predicted to measured group 6 rod worths for O2C26 appears to be a combination of noise in the measured data and typical overprediction of group 6 worth.