DC Cook Alpha Summary

2014 ISOE Conference Bern, Switzerland

Industry Knowledge

- Plants should consider the question of fuel defects
- By whose definition?
 - Nuclear fuels?
 - Chemistry?
 - INPO?
 - Management?

Industry Knowledge

- Historically, many plants have continued operation without mitigating known fuel defects (15-30 years ago)
 - Legacy contamination from these defects is not:
 - Known
 - Remembered
 - Always being considered







Industry Knowledge

- Is there an understanding that alphas remain while betas decay in abandoned systems or equipment removed from the RCS and stored?
 - Beta gamma ratios from the operating plant no longer apply
 - Need to look for alpha at lower beta gamma levels

Legacy Alpha Contamination

- Historical fuel defects may have deposited alpha activity that may be ingrained into the RCS crud layers:
 - May not show on smears
 - Alpha shielded within crud layers
 - Activity will appear when aggressively disturbed
 - May get lower ratios or higher alpha activity
 - We do not have this information

U1C25

- Work in U1C25 has been assessed for alpha hazards:
 - Alpha characterization is required for all RCS system breaches
 - Aggressive work in the RCS related systems identified
 - CTS heat exchanger
 - Regen heat exchanger eddy current
 - Steam generator eddy current

Summary of Alpha Data from 2007 to Current

	LEVEL 1*	LEVEL 2**	LEVEL 3***		
2007	00%	10%	0		
U2C17	9078	1078	0		
2008	0.40/	450/	10/		
U1C22	84%	15%	1%		
2009	84%	16%	0		
U2C18	04 /6	10 %			
2010	04% / 06%	69/ / 49/	0 / 0		
U1C23/U2C19	94 /0 / 90 /0	0767476			
2011	70.00/	01 70/	0		
U1C24	70.3%	21.770			
2012	01 70/	0.20/	0		
U2C20	91.7%	0.3%	U		
2013					
U1C25/U2C21	88% / 87%	12% / 13%	0/0		

Alpha Air Samples

Location	Date	Radionuclide	Activity (uCi)	% of total TU	DAC (uCi/cc)	DAC fraction
U1, RCP 12	Oct-06	Am-241	5.66 E-6	47.6	3 E-12	0.07
		Cm-243/244	2.27 E-6	19.1	4 E-12	0.02
		Pu-238	2.13 E-6	17.9	3 E-12	0.026
		Pu-239/240	1.83 E-6	15.4	3 E-12	0.023
U1, SG 1/4 Platform	Oct-06	Cm-242	3.10 E-6	100	1 E-10	0.009
U1, SG 1/4 Platform	Oct-06	Pu-241	5.17 E-4	91.1	1 E-10	0.1
		Am-241	1.48 E-6	0.26	3 E-12	0.0097
		Cm-242	3.34 E-5	5.88	1 E-10	0.009
		Cm-243/244	7.23 E-6	1.27	4 E-12	0.036
		Pu-238	6.57 E-6	1.15	3 E-12	0.043
		Pu-239/240	2.01 E-6	0.35	3 E-12	0.013
U1, RHR Grinding	Apr-08	Pu-239/240	7.54E-06	2	3 E-12	0.081
		Pu-241	3.70E-04	98	1 E-10	0.12

DAC Analysis of Air Samples

Location	Date	B/G DAC %	alpha DAC %	total DAC %
U1, RCP 12	Oct-06	48.2	ND	48.2
U1, RCP 12	Oct-06	25.7	13.9	39.6
U1, SG 1/4 Platform	Oct-06	44.5	0.9	45.4
U1, SG 1/4 Platform	Oct-06	48.6	21.1	69.7
U12, Transfer Canal	Apr-07	2.61	13.3	15.9
U12, Transfer Canal	Apr-07	0.64	ND	0.64
U12, Transfer Canal	Apr-07	0.43	4.3	4.7
U12, Transfer Canal	Apr-07	0.86	ND	0.86
U1, RHR Grinding	Apr-08	2.28	20.1	22.4

Unit 1 – 2013 Surprises

	B/G <u>dpm</u>	Alpha <u>dpm</u>	BG/A <u>Ratio</u>	
U1 RHR (1-IMO-350)	80,000	122	656	Bonnet seating surface
U1 RHR (1-IMO-350)	124,225	344	361	I/S 1-IMO-350 smear of smear (original 1.2 million BG and 3324 alpha)
U1 RHR (1-IMO-350)	187,677	237	792	Valve wedge smear of smear (original 600K BG = 757 alpha)
U1 RHR (1-IMO-350)	31,578	80	395	Valve body seating surface
U1 E RHR Floor	99	30	3	Level III. I/S Blank Flange

Spent Fuel Pool – 2013 Surprises

B/G <u>dpm</u>	Alpha <u>dpm</u>	BG/A <u>Ratio</u>	
6,462	28	231	Level III. I/S Pump
26,970	47	574	Level II I/S Pump
23,130	43	538	Level II. Stuffing Box
4,666	29	161	Level III. Impeller
6,768	23	294	Level III. I/S Pump

Conclusions

- Alpha contamination found in areas where it was not expected
- Monitoring less than 20,000 dpm smears provides important information especially for legacy alpha
- Lack of fuel performance information in early days of operation is a warning signal
- Under different circumstances the Cook program may not have protected the worker from alpha exposure

The End