SEP 9 1996 20 ENGINEERING DATA TRANSMITTAL

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Activity of TRIGA Core Components

F. Schmittroth Westinghouse Hanford Company, Richland, WA 99352 U.S. Department of Energy Contract DE-AC06-87RL10930

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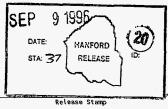
Key Words: TRIGA Activity

Abstract: The activity of TRIGA core components was estimated.

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ACTIVITY OF TRIGA CORE COMPONENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Activities for two groups of TRIGA core components are estimated: three stainless steel clad boron-carbide control rods and eleven aluminum clad graphite reflectors. The maximum measured contact dose rates are 50 mrem/hr for the control rods and 14 mrem/hr for the reflectors.

None of the materials in either group of elements are expected to activate significantly. The likely source of the measured dose rate is ⁶⁰Co activity. Cobalt 60 can occur from activation of trace cobalt impurities in stainless steel. Activation of copper, a common aluminum alloy, can also produce ⁶⁰Co. Abrasion and contamination from other components is another possible source.

2.0 CALCULATIONS

A rough estimate of the magnitude of cobalt activity that gives the measured dose rate was found as follows.

The unattenuated photon flux (the greater than 1 MeV photons from ⁶⁰Co are highly penetrating) from a cylindrical surface source is given by (Jaeger 1968)

$$\phi = \frac{S_A R}{2(a+R)} [F(\phi_1, k) + F(\phi_2, k)]$$

where S_A is the surface source density, R is the radius of the cylinder, and a is the distance from the cylinder centerline. The function F and its arguments are defined in the reference which gives a value near 0.3 for points near the surface of the cylinder (see Figure 6.8.-5).

This result can be used to relate the photon flux Φ to an equivalent flux Φ_{o} a distance x from a point source (equivalent in the sense of having a common total source strength):

$$\Phi = \left(\frac{0.6}{a+R}\right) \frac{1}{h} \left(x^2 \phi_o\right)$$

where h is the height of the cylinder.

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The same equation relates the measured dose rate D_m to an equivalent point source dose rate D_p . In turn, the dose rate from a point source is related to the source activity, A, by the specific gamma-ray constant, Γ :

 $x^2 D_o = \Gamma A$

Combining these results gives the desired activity as

 $A = \frac{h(a+R)}{0.6\Gamma} D_m$

For dimensions typical of a TRIGA component (h=50 cm, and a≈R=1.8 cm), the factors that relate the point and cylindrical geometries give a factor of 300. Together with a value of Γ for 60 Co (Jaeger 1968) of 13.2 (R cm²)/(h mCi) the following table was constructed:

Component	N	mrem/hr	Activity, single element	mCi total
Control rods	3	50	1.15	3.4
Reflectors	11	14	0.32	3.5

3.0 REFERENCES

R. G. Jaeger, et.al., 1968, <u>Engineering Compendium on Radiation</u> <u>Shielding</u>, Springer-Verlag, New York, NY.

CHECKLIST FOR INDEPENDENT TECHNICAL REVIEW

DOCUMENT REVIEWED Activity of TRIGA Core Components

AUTHOR(s) F. A. Schmittroth I. Method(s) of Review) Input data checked for accuracy (X) Independent calculation performed (X) Hand calculation () Alternate computer code: Comparison to experiment or previous results Alternate method (define) II. Checklist (either check or enter NA if not applied) Task completely defined X) XÌ Activity consistent with task specification Necessary assumptions explicitly stated and supported X) Resources properly identified and referenced X) (Xý Resource documentation appropriate for this application (X) Input data explicitly stated X) X) Input data verified to be consistent with original source Geometric model adequate representation of actual geometry (X) Material properties appropriate and reasonable ίX) Mathematical derivations checked including dimensional consistency Hand calculations checked for errors X) ίχ Assumptions explicitly stated and justified (NA) Computer software appropriate for task and used within range of validity (NA) Use of resource outside range of established validity is justified Software runstreams correct and consistent with results (NA) (NA) Software output consistent with input Results consistent with applicable previous experimental or (X) analytical findings Results and conclusions address all points and are consistent with (X) task requirements and/or established limits or criteria Conclusions consistent with analytical results and established (X) limits (X) Uncertainty assessment appropriate and reasonable Other (define) (NA) III. Comments:

IV. REV

REVIEWER: DATE: 30 Aug als

DISTRIBUTION SHEET									
То					Page 1 of 1				
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Project Title/Work Order						EDT No. 619200			
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Name	MSIN	Text With All Attach.	Text Only		Attach./ Appendix Only	EDT/ECN Only			
J. O. Dittmer		N2-02	X						
J. Greenborg		H0-35	х						
A. L. Ramble		A3-38	х						
F. A. Schmittroth	H0-35	х							
Central Files (2)		A3-88	х						