Safety, constructability, and operational performance of the ABWR and ESBWR designs

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GE Hitachi Nuclear Alliance





BWRs around the world



84 operating BWRs



GE Hitachi's new reactor portfolio



Operational Gen III technology

- Lowest core damage frequency of any Generation III reactor
- Extensive operational experience since 1996
- Licensed in US, Taiwan, and Japan







Evolutionary Gen III+ technology

- Lowest core damage frequency of any Generation III+ reactor
- Passive cooling for >7 days without AC power or operator action
- Lowest projected operations, maintenance, and staffing costs¹
- 25% fewer pumps, valves, and motors than active safety nuclear plants

Revolutionary technology with a rich, 40-year heritage

PRISM

- Passive air-cooling with no operator or mechanical actions needed
- The answer to the used fuel dilemma - can reduce nuclear waste to ~300-year radiotoxicity² while providing new electricity generation

1 Claims based on the U.S. DOE commissioned 'Study of Construction Technologies and Schedules, OSM Staffing and Cost, and Decommissioning Costs and Funding Requirements for Advanced Reactor Designs' and an ESBWR staffing study performed by a leading independent firm 2 To reach the same level of radiotoxicity as natural uranium

PWRs and BWRs – the basics



Typical Pressurized Water Reactor



Typical Boiling Water Reactor



Operation of a BWR

- Saturated water/steam mixture cooling fuel
- Direct cycle (No external steam generators)
- Water moderator modified by steam voids (bubbles)







A benchmark for operational performance



Source: IAEA PRIS Database and 3/2013 EPRI Fuel Reliability Update

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References: Plant licensing DCDs and publically available information Note: PRA of CDF is represented in at-power internal events (per year) Note: NSSS diagrams are for visualization purposes only

Responses needed to maintain core cooling





References: AP1000: US DCD rev. 18 Section 8.5.2.1, EPR: US DCD Rev. 1 Section 8.4



Advanced Boiling Water Reactor



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ABWR Reactor Specification

3926 Rated MWt/1350 MWe

• Can be uprated to 4,300 MWt

872 Fuel Bundles

- N- Lattice (symmetric water gap)
- Active Fuel Length (3.66 m; 12 ft)
- Moderate Power Density (51 kw/liter)

205 Control Blades

- Fine Motion Control Rod Drives (FMCRDs)
 - Reduced Fuel Duty
 - Fast Hydraulic Scram





ABWR Design Objectives

Improved operability Improved capacity factor

- 12-24 month fuel cycle
- ~95% on a 10 year rolling average

Improved safety and reliability

No core uncovery during design basis accidents

Reduced occupational exposure

Reduced costs

Predictable Construction Time and Costs Operations and Maintenance (O&M)





Emergency Core Cooling System





Key ABWR differentiators for extreme events





ABWR Station Blackout prevention and mitigation



3 x 100% nominal safety divisions

Emergency Diesel Generators

- 3 located in Reactor Building
- Each has a 7-day fuel tank that is buried in a concrete vault outside the Reactor Building

Combustion Turbine Generator

• Air-cooled – Service Water not needed

Safety-related batteries are located in the Control Building - just below the Main Control Room

AC Independent Water Addition (ACIWA) System

Hard-piped connections to reactor



Recent experience and project status



Construction lessons learned: Efficient, repeatable execution model







ABWR modularization – proven in Japan





Detailed engineering before on-site work





Modularization

Proven experience in operating Gen III plants

RCCV liner



Roof Truss Steel





Central Mat



Top Slab

RCCV Rebars





Predictability of Schedule



RI : Rock Inspection BC:Start of Basemat Construction FL : Fuel Loading CO: Commercial Operation



North Anna 3 ESBWR



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Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor



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Key plant / reactor characteristics

Parameter

- Core Thermal Power Output
- Plant Net Electrical Output⁽¹⁾
- Reactor Operating Pressure
- Feedwater Temperature⁽²⁾
- RPV
 - Diameter
 - Height
- Reactor Recirculation
- Fuel
- Control blades

⁽¹⁾ Typical (site dependent) ⁽²⁾ Nominal Rated Operation



4500 MWt 1520 MWe 7.17 MPa (1040 psia) 216°C (420°F)

7.1 meters (23.3 feet) 27.6 meters (90.5 feet) Natural Circulation 1132 fuel bundles Shortened length of 3m 269 Fine Motion Control Rod Drives (FMCRDs)

ESBWR: Economy of Scale and Simpler Design



ABWR to ESBWR evolution: Nuclear Island



- Standby Liquid Control System **simplified** design
- 2 Fuel and Aux Pool Cooling **equivalent** designs
- 3 Suppression Pool Cooling & Cleanup System equivalent capability
- 4 Residual Heat Removal System **equivalent** for shutdown cooling
- 5 Reactor Water Cleanup System **equivalent** designs
- 6 Hydraulic Control Unit **equivalent** design





- 7 High Pressure Core Flooder replaced by HP CRD makeup
 8 Reactor Core Isolation Cooling replaced by Isolation Condenser
 9 Residual Heat Removal Containment Spray replaced by PCCS
 10 Safety Relief Valves Diversified by Depressurization Valves
- Safety Relief Valves Diversified by Depressurization Valves

Systems are Equivalent or Simplified

ESBWR modularization – based on ABWR









ESBWR Passive Safety Systems



ESBWR LOCA response





Isolation Condenser System

- Fully passive only requires gravity to function and starts automatically (fails in-service if DC power is lost)
- 4 separate systems in reinforced concrete vaults
- Limits reactor pressure (no SRV lifts) and temperature and conserves water inventory following containment isolation
- Steam (heat) rises from reactor to the condenser pool, condenses, then gravity pulls the cool water down into the reactor (closed-loop)



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Simple refill actions – even in the worst conditions





Simple refill actions – even in the worst conditions





Simple refill actions – even in the worst conditions







Operations





ABWR and ESBWR state-of-the-art operations

Fully Digital Control System

- Fewer components, No drift, less power and heat
- Fault tolerance control
- Four division safety redundancy
- Automated operation
- Surveillance testing greatly reduced

Improved Man-Machine Interface

- Large mimic displays
- Prioritized alarms
- Flat panel controls minimize hard switches
- Human factored displays







ABWR and ESBWR offer substantial improvements in O&M



Simplifications in design – Safety, operations, and reliability O&M costs



Improvements in plant maintenance – teasier operations, greater reliability Maintenance cost and dose



Simpler to operate – ↑ Safety and reliability ↓ Operator actions and transients



Key component redundancy – Maintenance flexibility Operational transients



Lower radiation exposure – Outage efficiency and FME reduction Occupational dose and rad waste costs



Passive safety (ESBWR) – Safety and plant simplification Maintenance costs and dose



Best in-class O&M

Comparison of Projected Gen III/III+ Nuclear Plant Staffing Requirements



ESBWR requires significantly fewer plant personnel than any other Generation III/III+ design.

- A direct reflection of the ESBWR's simpler design
- Allows for a higher percentage of local workforce
- Fewer ex-pats results in direct cost savings



Source: An ESBWR staffing study performed by a leading independent firm Copyright 2013 GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy - Americas, LLC - All rights reserved





Safe.

Simple.

Smart.



Based on the industry standard measure of reactor safety - core damage frequency
 Claims based on the U.S. DOE commissioned 'Study of Construction Technologies and Schedules, O&M
 Staffing and Cost, and Decommissioning Costs and Funding Requirements for Advanced Reactor
 Designs' and an ESBWR staffing study performed by a leading independent firm