TASK CLOSE, OUT DOCUMENT

# Task Scope Evaluate The Effect of Non- Conderwiller I the REFLUX BOILING MODE

To: M. Levenson S. Levy E. Zebroski

Task No. 10c

Date Complete 4/11/19

More detailed analysis should be performed with a complete supplem model. A ocaled test must be performed to confirm the conclusion.

Members of Committee

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#### Abstract

Having addressed earlier the "Behavior of RCS with Steam Generators In Condensing Mode", C. Solbrig, et. al., April 10, 1979, the IAG was asked to further investigate the possible effect of non-condensibles under the mode of decay heat removal in which the primary system loses natural circulation and goes into a boiling (in the pressure vessel)/condensing (in the steam generator) mode.

#### Summary

. Based upon a review of the available information and the competing phenomena the following is concluded:

- (a) It is possible that a volume of evolved non-condensible gases might reach a size wherein it might temporarily effectively seal the top of the candy cane and limit the flow of steam to the steam generator.
- (b) This condition would not be expected to occur unless the system lost natural circulation and boiled at or near atmospheric pressure with the pressurizer relief valve (and block valve) open for a considerable period; i.e., 24 - 60 hours or longer depending on the actual radiolysis rate.
- (c) If this condition did occur it should be possible to break this seal by raising system pressure to the range of 10 to 20 atmospheres. This pressurization might occur either by; (a) via pressure relief through the pressurizer relief valve which under choked conditions would require ~200 psia back pressure to vent the steam generated in the core, or (b) by closing the pressurizer relief valve if that were still possible. In either case, pressurization should occur via steaming in the core and continued evolution of non-condensibles, although this may be a very slow process.
- (d) During steady state operation in a boiling mode, with or without the relief valve open, an equilibrium condition would be expected to be attained where the gases released by radiolysis during boiling should equal those which go back into solution at the condensation surface, and/or out the pressurizer relief valve if it remains open.
- (e) Once the system has stabilized, the heat removal from the primary system will either be via the pressurizer relief valve, condensation in the steam generator, or a combination of both. Some combination which yields a system pressure somewhere between atmospheric and ~200 psia is most likely, although it is likely that steam flow to, and condensation in, the steam generator will ultimately predominate.

An important premise for these conclusions is that the volume of non-condensible gases which might be expected to be present even after boiling at atmospheric pressure for a considerable period; i.e., -2000 SCF after 12 to 24 hours, would be relatively small when the pressure increases to the range -200 psia. Under these conditions the non-condensibles would either become co-mingled with the steam or in the worst case, if there was stratification they would be compressed (by the steam acting as a piston) to a much smaller volume above the water level in the steam generator. Condensation in the

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steam generator should in either event be re-established in the steam generator. Another important factor is that long before stable conditions could be achieved, percolation of steam/oscillation of water levels should be expected. Such percolation should also encourage good mixing of the steam and non-condensibles, if they are not already well mixed.

#### Discussion

If natural circulation without boiling were somehow lost and could not be re-established, the stagnant liquid in the reactor vessel would eventually be brought to saturation and bulk boiling could begin. Ostensibly the pressurizer relief valve would be opened to allow displacement of the relatively cold pressurizer water out of the primary system for some period to be able to make volume provision for the generated steam in the top of the system. During this period of initial boiling non-condensible gases would be given off by radiolysis and would pass with the steam over to the steam generator, where the steam would condense and at least initially hydrogen could begin to buildup. If this condition were to allow to continue at low pressure it is possible that hydrogen would build up in the steam generator and ultimately over into the candy cane. Assuming no re-solution in the generator, which is very conservative, and maximum evolution of hydrogen in the core during boiling a volume of 4050 SCF, could build up after a considerable period of boiling at atmospheric pressure. Conservative estimates for the time to do this range from 24 to 60 hours with extensive core damage (See Appendix I). The measured level of dissolved noncondensible gases remaining in the primary system as of 4/16/79 was-800 SCF\*. Therefore, boiling at atmospheric pressure for 24 to 60 hours could result in a volume of non-condensibles on the order -2000 SCF assuming no re-solution. This volume of gas built up above the water level in the steam generator and into the candy cane could conceivably form a seal which would block or limit steam flow to the steam generator. Since mass diffusion of steam through hydrogen is quite low (See Appendix 2) one could argue that such a condition could prevent reflux boiling. However, the volumes of non-condensible gases are still relatively low and if raised to a pressure of 10 to 20 atmospheres would represent a partial volume of 41% of the primary system volume and 410% of the steam generator volume on the primary side. Thus raising the system pressure to 10 to 20 atmospheres by closing the pressurizer relief valve and/or block valve, or allowing it to achieve a pressure of 175 - 200 psig naturally by steaming thru the pressurizer relief, if it is completely open, would provide a means of breaking the postulated seal of non-condensible gases. Once the system is pressurized in this fashion the steam should begin condensing in the secondary heat exchanger, if it wasn't already doing so, on the cold tubes and/or at the water surface depending on the level of water being maintained in the heat exchanger.

One potentially important consideration is the effect of non-condensibles in the heat exchanger on the heat transfer coeeficients for condensation.

•water samples indicate →68 cc/ml ←800 SCF with a primary system volume of ~12000 ft<sup>3</sup>.

Normal condensation heat transfer coefficients on the order of 800 BTU/hr ft.<sup>20</sup> F can be expected without non-condensibles. The effect of non-condensibles is expected to reduce this coefficient by approximately an order of magnitude reduction. However, even if one conservatively assumes a coefficient reduction of two orders of magnitude there is still ample heat transfer rate to condense all steam generated. This is true because of the large amount of heat transfer area, even if only the top 5 - 10% of the heat exchanger tube length is available for condensation.

Once the path for condensation has been established, a stable equilibrium condition should eventually be attained at these pressures where the steam and hydrogen would be evolved in the core, remain co-mingled, and pass to the heat exchanger and partially vent out the pressurizer if the relief valve remained open, and resolution would occur at the same rates should be sufficient to remove available hydrogen. With or without the relief valve open the system will stabilize at a pressure above 1 atm and probably below 200 psi, an equilibrium which will be determined by the rate of resolution of  $H_2/O_2$  which will equilibrate with the core radiolysis. Appendix 4 analysis demonstrates that equilibrium could be established at or above 2 atm. If the relief valve remains open pressures on this order are more likely, if closed they will be higher. In either case it is likely the secondary heat exchanger will be the predominant point of heat removal in the system, as opposed to the relief valve on the pressurizer. However, with the relief valve open, some makeup would be desirable over the long-term.

The higher pressures proposed to assure no problems with non-condensibles are conducive to both high solubility of H<sub>2</sub> and low radiolysis. It is coincidently true that the reflux boiling/condensation thermal hydraulics should also be more stable at these pressures since the specific volume differences of gas and liquid are much smaller than at atmospheric pressure.

#### Recommendations

The evaluations described are of necessity somewhat qualitative and idealized. As a consequence it is considered imperative that:

- (a) A scaled test of some sort be performed as soon as possible to confirm the conclusion that a non-condensible gas seal can be broken under varying system conditions.
- (b) Someone at B&W or in the working group should be assigned the responsibility to perform more detailed system-unique analyses for TMI -II to investigate the various boiling modes, and
- (c) Operating procedures should be developed to assure that appropriate actions are taken to come to a stable boiling condition at a predetermined pressure, with appropriate attention to question of non-condensibles, should natural circulation be lost.

#### Non-Condensibles Currently in Primary Water

Water sample measurement as of 4/16/79 indicates 68 cc. at STP per Kg of water. This represents a volume fraction of 68 cc (1 gm/cc) = .068 (1000 gm)

Total Primary System Volume -12000 Ft3

Total Volume of Non-Condensibles at STP in primary system = 12000 x .068 = 816 SCF - 800 SCF

# Non-Condensibles Evolution During Boiling At Atmospheric Pressure

Under boiling conditions in the core, with decay heat, radiolysis will result in the evolution of both  $\rm H_2$  and  $\rm O_2$ .

The attached letter, P. W. Marriott to D. Rockwell, of April 9, 1979, indicates an upper bound on H<sub>2</sub> evolution would be 73 SCF/hr using Reg. Guide 1.7 assumptions and a core thermal power of S mw. Adjusting this to the current 3M level yields 43.8 SCF/hr at atmospheric pressure.

43.8 SCF x 24 hrs = 1051 SCF  $H_2$  With  $O_2$  this would become 1576 SCF.

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Total if all currently dissolved gases come out of solution = 1576 + 816 = 2392 2400 SCF. This is very conservative. More realistic rates on the order of 300 to 600 SCF/day are more likely, particularly as the steam/hydrogen pressure above the core increases. At more realistic rates it could take 2 to 5 days to achieve levels as high as ~2400 SCF with no resolution and complete release of all currently dissolved gases.

TO:

D.J. Accise!

April: 9, 15

SCALLECT: " • RESPONSES TO GPY COESTIONS ON MYCHOLEM

This mean summarizes our communits on several hydrogen-related subjects requested by GFO over the past two days.

## 1. Reduction of Collant Temperature to Maximize Net Degassing.

RIT codsultants report that a) for 515 psia of Ma pressure at  $200^{\circ}$ F the amount of Mg dissolved in the unter is 0.63 thlys (we get 0.64 thlysn).

- b) for 500 psia of  $\theta_2$  pressure at 140°F the amount of  $\theta_2$  dissolved in the water is 0.63 el/gm (we get 0.57 ml/gm).
- c) the amount of H, dissolved is water at 20 gsts of H, and a temperature of 200 F is 0.02 (we get 0.025 ml/gs).
- d) the assent of  $H_2$  dissolved to water at 20 psia of  $H_2$  and a temperature of 140°F is 0.07 (we get 0.022).

The practical conclusions are:

- 1) We agree as tigh a pressure as practical will get the maximum ascent of B<sub>2</sub> dissolved in the water, and therefore, the maximum i lease on the let down.
- 2) We believe, based on GE experience in de supersaturation of  $\rm H_2$  in water, that the temperature is not important in the range of 150 to 200°F.
- 3) There is a possibility that flashing from 280°F (but not from 200°F) could interfere with flow in the let down line. Therefore, 200°F would be better than 280°F for net degassing.

## II. Rydrogen Generation Rate Long-Term

:Input: Thermal Power 5 Mil

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This 1. Without any holling in the core, and with an overpressure of  $R_2$  is the let down Tank at I-120°F of 1 at of  $R_2$  the radiolysis should be zero = 0.

Cree 2. Without any boiling in the core, and with an intact core, the rate

S(984) x 0.03 (scfe) x 60 (afn) x 0.03, (con boiling)

Description 3. String RG 1.3 and 1.7 assumptions on fission product release, beiling where. rediciys is occurring, for a degrated core, (Gr0.5 for 4s and 8's). The generation rate of a autore 2700 RH, core at 10 days is 73 scfb of H,

160seth

April 9, 1971

Case 4. Experience data from GE Bulls an shat down at 5 RM, (as in 2 above) 9 acti

He removal rate by solubility based on 515 psis and 200°F, we can remove 100 scfb.

Conclusion: Even in the worst case at 515 psi the raciolysis H, can be removed even at 10 gpm with a factor of safety greater than 10 (based on non-boiling).

As per 1300 PST this date we have data from plant that shows possibility of shoe boiling in core - if we use SMR Soiling data our rates would be 10-20 soft.

## III.. Potas: fum Permangamate es a Hydrogen Getter

We have considered what problems might be encountered. In using K MmO<sub>4</sub> to remove  $H_B$ . Assumedly deterated loop at 500 psi  $220^{\circ}F$ : this would require the addition of 1.6 x  $10^{\circ}$  kg of saturated 1000, water solution – about 65 of the total primary loop folume or about 1400 minutes at 3 gpm.

This would add about 1000 Kg of K MmD<sub>0</sub> and yield about 600 kg MmD<sub>0</sub> sludge if all the H<sub>2</sub> were reacted. This much sludge could interfere with the letdom flow. Will is an end product of the reaction, so the coolant could become quite basic (pH % 12). Raterials properties are still being studied. A better additive with the  $\frac{1}{2}$ 0<sub>2</sub> because the reaction product is H<sub>2</sub>0. The major question is the decomposition of  $\frac{1}{2}$ 0<sub>2</sub> to form 0<sub>2</sub> (free) which could lead to H<sub>2</sub>+0<sub>2</sub> and the possibility of rapid reaction. The decomposition shall be less troublesome with slow injection so that the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> could immediately react with apple H<sub>2</sub> in the vicinity of the injection point.

Alyanish

'. W. Marriott, Chairman Three Mile Island Task Force

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## Diffusion of Steam Through H, Gas

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$$A = 36 \text{ in.}^2 - 1 \text{ m}^2$$
  $D \le 1 \text{ cm}^2 \ \angle 230f - 10m$ 

$$J = -10^4 \text{ cm}^2, \frac{1}{5} \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{sec}} \cdot \frac{0 - 1.0}{1000 \text{ cm}} = +10 \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{sec}} \times \frac{1 \text{ ft}^3}{(30.24 \text{ cm})^3} = \frac{10}{2.77 \times 10^3} \frac{\text{ft}^3}{\text{sec}}$$

J = 0.36 x 10-2ft3/sec

Need for steam generation rate

$$n = \frac{(3 \text{ mw}) (3.413 \times 10^6) \text{ BTU/Hr mw} \times 26.8 \text{ ft}^3}{970.3 \text{ BTW/1b} (3600 \frac{\text{sec}}{\text{hr}})} = .0723 \times 10^3 \frac{\text{ft}^3}{\text{sec}}$$

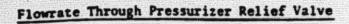
m at 1 atm = 72.3 ft3/sec

This says straight diffusion through a hydrogen slug is not practical at 1 atm. Hydrogen will tend to pile up more and more if the mechanism relied totally on mass diffusion through a slug of gas in the pipe.

If gas is compressed into secondary Hx due to increased pressure to a depth of  $\sim$ /hr, and A<sub>crossection</sub> = 25.2 ft<sup>2</sup>  $\sim$ 2.3 m<sup>2</sup>

$$J = -10^4 \times 2.3 \times 1 \frac{cm^2}{sec} \cdot \frac{0.1.0}{100} \frac{1}{(30.24)^3} = \frac{2.3 \times 10^2}{2.77 \times 10^3} = .8310^{-1} \text{ ft}^3/\text{sec}$$

Still is to low for diffusion through the H<sub>2</sub>. However, by the time the steam reached the top of the Hx it would begin to condense on the tubes and run down through the hydrogen plug.



Valve throat area -1.05 in2

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Critical Isentropic Flow through a Nozzle

$$P_{psi} = \frac{10.55 \times 10^3 \text{ lb/hr}}{1.05 \text{ in}^2} = \frac{1}{52 \text{ lb/hr in}^2 \text{ psi}} = 193.2 \text{ psi}$$

$$P_{psi} = \frac{12.28 \times 10^3}{1.05} = 220.6 \text{ psi}$$

.This says that to vent through the relief valve on the pressurizer will require about 200 psi back-pressure. In other words the system will tend to pressurize it self when venting through the pressurizer relief valve.

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D. C. Ditmore - Industry Advisory.

From: P. W. Marriott

4/17/79

L. Nesbitt M. Siegler

Subject: Hydrogen Solubility Evaluations

TMI - Gas Removal/Mass Transfer

Assume: 
$$212^{\circ}F$$
, 1 atmosphere pressure  $h_{fg} = 970.3 \frac{BTU}{1b}$ .

Steam Generation Rate of Saturation Conditions = 
$$\frac{10.2 \times 10^6}{970.3}$$
 = 1.05 x 104  $\frac{1b}{hr}$ 

Solubility of H<sub>2</sub> at 1 atm, 
$$212^{\circ}F = 1.69 \times 10^{-6} \frac{1b \text{ H}_2}{1b \text{ water (atm)}}$$

(Note that the solubility is proportional to the number of atmospheres of pressure. Higher pressure improve the solubility).

Solubility in the available in condensing steam is:

(1.05 x 
$$10^4 \frac{1b}{hr}$$
) (1.69 x  $10^{-6}$  .atm) (359 ft<sup>3</sup>H<sub>2</sub> at STP)

= 319 x 10-2 ft3/hr at STP -3 ft3/hr H2 solubility in the condensing steam.

\* This limits the amount of H, which can be transferred. (If the rate of evolution of H, by radiolysis in the core during boiling exceeds this rate then Ho will build up in the system in the secondary steam generator.)

As an alternate case, if you assume 120°F instead of 212°F, the result is approximately the same.

Solubility of H<sub>2</sub> at 
$$120^{\circ}$$
 = 1.48 x  $10^{-6}$   $\frac{1b}{1b}$  atm

' Solubility Rate in Available Condensing Steam is,

= 3.19 
$$\frac{(1.48 \times 10^{-6})}{1.69 \times 10^{-6}}$$
 = 2.8 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr

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Now, if you look at the case of 15 atmospheres total pressure t = 392°F.

$$H_2$$
 Solubility = 3.36 x  $10^{-6}$   $\frac{1b}{1b}$  at

If you then take into account the 15 atm pressure, the H<sub>2</sub> transport into the condensing steam would be

(1.05 x 
$$10^4$$
  $\frac{1b}{hr}$  steam)  $\frac{(970.3)}{833.6}$  (3.36 x  $10^{-6}$   $\frac{1b}{1b}$  )  $\frac{(mole)}{2 lb}$   $\frac{(359 \text{ ft}^3 \text{ at STP})}{mole}$  (15 atm)

= 11087.6 x 10<sup>-2</sup> = 110.9 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr

As an alternate case if you look at 120°F the result is:

(110.9) 
$$(\frac{1.48}{3.36}$$
 = 48.8 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr (STP)

The actual solubility during condensation probably falls in the ranges of:

But, what really helps at the higher pressure is that the radiolysis should be suppressed because of the dissolved H<sub>2</sub>. \* 15 atm would probably work, (since very conservative estimates indicate H<sub>2</sub> evolution due to radiolysis when boiling at 1 atm in the postulated core condition for TMI - II is no greater than 43.8 SCF/hr\*. In fact some pressure below 15 atm but above 1 atm would probably have sufficient solubility rates compared to radiolysis evolution rates for H<sub>2</sub>.)

## Quick Look At Oxygen Solubility

$$0_2$$
 Transport (To Condensing Steam) =  $(25.2 \times 10^6)(1.05 \times 10^4)(1 \frac{mol}{32 \text{ lb}}) \frac{(359 \text{ ft}^3 \text{ STP})}{mole}$ 

$$0_2$$
 Transport =  $(45.1 \times 10^{-6})(1.05 \times 10^4) \frac{(970.3)}{833.6} \frac{(1)}{32}(359)$   
=  $9242 \times 10^{-2}$   $-92$  ft<sup>3</sup>/hr

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O2 numbers are ... quite similar to H2 numbers on a volumetric basis.

Note: All transports are based on either 1 atm or 15 atm available gas pressure.

O<sub>2</sub> generation rate should be ~1/2 H<sub>2</sub> and • 1/2 (43.8 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr) ~21.9 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr at the most at 1 atm. So again at 1 atm you can't remove all generated gas, but at 15 atm considering the decrease expected in radiolysis you should be able to remove all evolved H<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>, based on full equilibrium being reached in H<sub>2</sub>O for each gas. (In fact sufficient solubility rates compared to radiolysis evolution rates for O<sub>2</sub>)

#### APPENDIX 4 (Cont.)

## Try 2 Atm Pressure

Let's assume that 2 ppm by weight of H2 = sufficient to suppress radiolysis

Assume \( 2 \) qtm total pressure tsat = 2520F h<sub>fg</sub> = 944.2

. Steam Rate at 3 mw = 
$$(1.05 \times 10^4 \frac{1b}{hr}) \frac{(970.3)}{944.2} = 1.08 \times 10^4 \frac{1b}{hr}$$

.. 
$$2 \times 10^{-6} \frac{1b \text{ H}_2}{1b \text{ H}_20} \times 10.8 \times 10^3 \frac{1b}{hr} \times \frac{359 \text{ ft}^3}{2 \text{ 1b H}_2}$$

= 3877 x  $10^{-3}$  ft<sup>3</sup>/hr H<sub>2</sub> required to be transported to maintain 2 ppm is condensed steam.

H<sub>2</sub> solubility at 252°F and 2 atm total pressure = 1.91 x  $10^{-6}$   $\frac{1b}{1b.atm}$ 

Mass Transport into Condensing=(10.8 x  $10^3$   $\frac{1b}{hr}$ )(1.91 x  $10^{-6}$   $\frac{1b}{1b.atm}$ )(2 atm)(359  $\frac{SCF}{2.1b}$ )=7405 x  $10^{-3}$ =7.4 ft<sup>3</sup>  $\frac{1}{hr}$ 

. . at 2 ppm H, and 2 atm the rate of resolution possible during condensation is > than the rate of evolution due to radiolysis.

## Conclusions

. Mass transfer calculations yielded  $\sim$ 255 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr capable of being transferred if H<sub>2</sub>O film reaches equilibrium saturation valve. But at 2 ppm concentration you only need about 4 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr.

. System will probably seek a higher liquid level than the level assumed . . in mass transfer calculation of -25'.

ENGINEERING CALCULATION SHEET	
(a)	- MIL 4/17/79
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	MIL 4/17/79 MR. LAW SEET_1 ∞ 2
Mass Transfer  7-1260 Condensation  0-5600 Little condensation  kittle mess Transfer	Conditions! Steam 250°F P 2atm. P 2atm. Adsorbing film 200°F Width of exposed Tubes W = 2500 H2 (wetted primate) Film surface velocity=1011.
10 feet    100% He, No Condonce Average film Temp 120°F Cooling wate  From Bind-Stewart-Lig	W = 2500 H2 (wetted perimeter)  of ilm surface velocity=1011  nuin  etion Steamswater Reta  10,000 11 m  in cervice  ht foot P. 540
From Bird-Stewart-Liq  W.L.XV	TL Trucy
w = 2.5x103 · 10 · 1.02x103	1-17x10 × 10  1-10fet  1-17x10 × 10  DL H:40=1.7x10 112  min
where 7 = 5 pm.  x = 1.7x10 b Llower He x 2 A  could be a	Solubility Sepor= 1:7x10 Minose the Maria Mo-Ala Hax 60 Minosetho, Monder Ha 1:413 2 Minosetho  Bis = 2 ata  1:65 352
€ 2.5 × 1:02 × 4.65	X10-3 = .012 Murder=255 H3Hz.

...

Vmay comes from falling film solution B.S.L. p. 37

Q = pqW83 Vmay = pq82

3,4 0= 6016m

Q = 10,000 Um 43 for = 2.78 413 U = .25 cp

S3 = 3x.25 cp x2.78 113 x 6.72 x 10 1/4 w w. 2500 ft

- 14 x 10 -4 = .48 x 10 -11 | cp = 6.719 7x 10 14

= 4.8 × 10<sup>-17</sup> \$4<sup>3</sup>

Uniny = 60 11/19 x 32.2 14 (1.69 x 10-4)2 41 60002

8 = 1.69 x10-4 fl3

= 33 × 10 5 × 10 - 8 54 = 9.7 14 = 9.7

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