



Contribution ID: 80

Type: Poster

Project Experiences of the Implementation of the Primary Bleed & Feed System

Thursday, 27 August 2015 14:00 (1h 30m)

Modernization activities play a very important role in the enhancement of the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants. The main focus is on increasing the plant availability, the operational flexibility or the integration of new, additional equipment to satisfy safety requirements, as in this case with the implementation of the design modification primary circuit "Primary Bleed & Feed" (P B & F) of the primary circuit, in the consideration of a beyond design basis accident.

Primary B & F prevents the high pressure core melt path and allows an additional alternative heat removal by depressurizing the primary system and coolant injection with passive and/or active low pressure systems, when the normal core cooling is not available because of loss of water inventory in the steam generators.

The goal of this paper is to show some general good practices gained during the implementation of the Primary Bleed and Feed System from the project conception to the system implementation. Basically, practice shows that some of the crucial factors which contributed to a successful project execution were based on (i) good interface management between the new system and the existing plant components, (ii) a close coordination of the single engineering disciplines and simultaneous activities, (iii) safety culture and quality assurance were set as priority during the entire project development.

Country or International Organization

AREVA

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Session Classification: Session 11C: Posters: Energy, Environment, and Climate Change