



# Appendix K: Parameters for Typical BWR-5 and PWR Reactors

**TABLE K.1**  
**Key Characteristics of the Nine Mile Point 2 General Electric BWR-5 with  
GE11 Fuel and of the Seabrook Station PWR**

Parameters	Units	BWR	Sources	PWR	Sources
		Nine Mile Point 2, GE			
Reactor General Parameters		BWR-5		Seabrook Station Reactor	
Thermal power, $\dot{Q}_{th}$	MWth	3323	A	3411	G
Net electric power, $\dot{Q}_e$	MWe	1062	B	1148	B
Efficiency, $\eta$	%	32.0	(1)	33.7	(1)
Nominal pressure, $p$	MPa	7.14	A	15.51	G
Steam dome pressure, $p_{dome}$	MPa	7.03	A	—	—
Total core pressure drop, $\Delta p_{core}$	MPa	0.171	A	0.197	G
Final feedwater temperature	°C	215.6	A	226.7	G
Core inlet temperature, $T_{in}$	°C	278.3	A	293.1	G
Core exit temperature, $T_{exit}$	°C	286.1	(2)	326.8	(12)
Core average exit quality, $x$	%	14.6	C	—	—
Total steam flow rate, $\dot{m}_{steam}$	kg/s	1798	A	1905.1	G
Core coolant flow rate, $\dot{m}_{core}$	kg/s	13671	A	17476 <sup>a</sup>	G
Number of assemblies, $N_a$	—	764	B	193	G
Active core equivalent diameter	m	4.75	B	3.37	B
Coolant mass in primary circuit	t	260	B	354	B
Fuel enrichment (initial core), $r$	%	0.7/1.8/2.2	B	1.6/2.4/3.1	B
Fuel enrichment (reloads), $r$	%	3.5	B	3.1/3.4/4.2 <sup>c</sup>	B
Number of loops	—	2	B	4	B
Cycle length	months	16 <sup>d</sup>	B	12 <sup>d</sup>	B
Average discharge burnup	MWd/tU	32300	B	33000	B
Fuel inventory	tHM	141	B	89	(4)
	t(UO <sub>2</sub> )	160	(4)	101	G
Average core power density	kW <sub>th</sub> /L	52.3	(3)	104.5	(3)
Average core specific power	kW <sub>th</sub> /kg <sub>HM</sub>	23.6	(15)	38.3	(15)

*continued*

**TABLE K.1 (continued)**

**Key Characteristics of the Nine Mile Point 2 General Electric BWR-5 with GE11 Fuel and of the Seabrook Station PWR**

Parameters	Units	BWR	Sources	PWR	Sources
		Nine Mile Point 2, GE			
Reactor General Parameters		BWR-5		Seabrook Station Reactor	
Configuration	—	$9 \times 9$	D	$17 \times 17$	G
Fuel rods per assembly, $N_{\text{rods}}$	—	74	D	264	G
Number of part length fuel rods	—	8	D	—	—
Number of full length fuel rods	—	66	D	—	—
Number of water rods, $N_{\text{wr}}$	—	2	E	—	—
Channel width, $l_{\text{ch}}$	mm	134.1 (inside)	E	214.0	G
		138.6 (outside)	H		
Assembly pitch, $l$	mm	152.4	B	215.0	G
Core average flow rate per assembly, $\dot{m}_{\text{a}}$	kg/s	15.4	(5)	89.8	(13)
Assembly flow area, $A_{\text{fa}}$	m <sup>2</sup>	$9.718 \times 10^{-3\text{b}}$	(6)	$2.444 \times 10^{-2}$	(14)
Core average assembly mass flux, $G_{\text{a}}$	kg m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	1584 <sup>b</sup>	(7)	3675.4	G
Fuel Rods		GE11, $9 \times 9$ fuel		Seabrook Station Reactor	
Pellet percent of theoretical density	—	97	D	95	G
Rod-to-rod pitch, $P$	mm	14.37	D	12.6	G
Fuel rod outside diameter, $D$	mm	11.20	D	9.5	G
Cladding thickness, $t_{\text{clad}}$	mm	0.71	D	0.572	G
Fuel-cladding gap (cold), $t_{\text{gap}}$	mm	0.09	(8)	0.0826	G
Fuel pellet diameter, $D_{\text{f}}$	mm	9.60	D	8.192	G
Fuel pellet length, $L_{\text{f}}$	mm	10	D	9.8	G
Diameter of water rods, $D_{\text{wr}}$	mm	24.9	E	—	—
Total fuel rod height	m	4.09	D	3.876	G
Heated fuel height, $L$	m	3.588	D	3.658	G
Part length rod length	m	2.286	D	—	—
% of energy deposited in the fuel rods	%	96.5	I	97.4	G
Peak LHGR, $q_0'$	kW/m	47.24	D	44.62	G
Core average LHGR, $\langle q' \rangle$	kW/m	17.6	F	17.86	G
Core average subchannel flow rate, $\dot{m}_{\text{ch}}$	kg/s	0.175 (interior)	(9)	0.335 (interior)	(9)
		0.134 (edge)		0.159 (edge)	
		0.0922 (corner)		0.0759 (corner)	
Subchannel flow area, $A_{\text{fch}}$	m <sup>2</sup>	$1.08 \times 10^{-4}$ (int)	(10)	$8.79 \times 10^{-5}$ (int)	(10)
		$8.83 \times 10^{-5}$ (edg)		$4.27 \times 10^{-5}$ (edg)	
		$6.70 \times 10^{-5}$ (cor)		$2.07 \times 10^{-5}$ (cor)	

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**TABLE K.1 (continued)**

**Key Characteristics of the Nine Mile Point 2 General Electric BWR-5 with GE11 Fuel and of the Seabrook Station PWR**

Parameters	Units	BWR	Sources	PWR	Sources
Core average subchannel mass flux, $G_{ch}$	$\text{kg m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$	1625 (int) 1514 (edg) 1378 (cor)	(11)	3807 (int) 3734 (edg) 3661 (cor)	(11)

<sup>a</sup> Effective flow rate for heat transfer (total minus: flow through thimble tubes, leakage from barrel-baffle into core, head cooling flow, leakage to the vessel outlet nozzle).

<sup>b</sup> Assuming all the fuel rods being full-length rods.

<sup>c</sup> Many PWRs now reload about 4.5%

<sup>d</sup> Typically USA BWRs and PWRs now operate on 24- and 18-month cycle lengths.

*References*

A Nine Mile Point 2 Nuclear Plant, Updated Safety Analysis Report, Table 4.4-1, USAR Revision 8, Oswego, New York, November 1995.

B 2009 World Nuclear Industry Handbook, Wilmington Media, Kent, United Kingdom, 2009.

C Typical BWR value.

D Anonymous, Fuel design data, *Nuclear Engineering International*, 52, 638, Sciences Module, p.32, Sept 2007.

E General Electric Company, Retransmittal of Response to Request for Additional Information (RAI) for ESBWR Pre-application Review, San Jose, CA, 2003.

F Watford, G. A., GE 10 × 10 Advanced BWR fuel design, ANS topical meeting on Advances in Nuclear Fuel Management II, Myrtle Beach, SC, 1997.

G Ferroni, P., Hejzlar, P., and Todreas N., Compilation of Thermal-hydraulic and geometric data of the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant, Unpublished, 2006.

H BWR/6, General Description of a Boiling Water Reactor, General Electric Co., San Jose, CA, revised 1980.

I Author's best estimate.

*Calculations*

$$(1) \quad \eta = \frac{\text{Net electric power}}{\text{Thermal power}}$$

$$(2) \quad T_{\text{exit}} = T_{\text{sat}} (p = 7.03 \text{ MPa}). \text{ Saturation temperature of water at the steam dome pressure.}$$

$$(3) \quad \text{Average core power density} = \frac{\text{Thermal power}}{L \frac{\pi}{4} (\text{active core equivalent diameter})^2}$$

$$(4) \quad t(UO_2) = \frac{t(HM)}{f_{HM}}$$

The heavy metal fraction is given by Equation 2.21:

$$f_{HM} = \frac{rM_{ff} + (1-r)M_{nf}}{rM_{ff} + (1-r)M_{nf} + M_{O_2}} \quad (2.21)$$

The values in Table K.1 are obtained using the average reload enrichments for BWRs and PWRs.

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**TABLE K.1 (continued)****Key Characteristics of the Nine Mile Point 2 General Electric BWR-5 with GE11 Fuel and of the Seabrook Station PWR**

$$(5) \quad \dot{m}_a = \frac{(1 - 0.10 - 0.04) \times \dot{m}_{\text{core}}}{N_a} = \frac{0.86 \times \dot{m}_{\text{core}}}{N_a} = \frac{0.86 \times 13671}{764} = 15.39 \text{ kg/s},$$

assuming 10% core bypass flow and 4% flow through the water rods.

$$(6) \quad A_{\text{fa}} = (l_{\text{ch}})^2 - N_{\text{wr}} \frac{\pi(D_{\text{wr}})^2}{4} - N_{\text{rods}} \frac{\pi(D)^2}{4} \\ = 0.1341^2 - 2 \frac{\pi(0.0249)^2}{4} - 74 \frac{\pi(0.0112)^2}{4} = 9.718 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^2$$

$$(7) \quad G_a = \frac{\dot{m}_a}{A_{\text{fa}}} = \frac{15.39}{9.718 \times 10^{-3}} = 1584 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^2 \text{ s}}$$

$$(8) \quad t_{\text{gap}} = \frac{D - D_f - 2t_{\text{clad}}}{2} = \frac{11.20 - 9.60 - 2 \times 0.71}{2} = 0.09 \text{ mm}$$

- (9) Calculated using equation 4.114 (*Nuclear Systems Vol. II*, p. 154), using  $n = 0.2$  and considering for BWR four different types of channels (50 interior channels, 32 edge, 4 corner and 1 near water rods) and for PWR five types (156 interior, 64 edge, 4 corner, 4 near the instrumentation tube, 96 near the 24 guide tubes). From source *G*, the instrumentation tube diameter is 12.29 mm and the guide tube diameter is 11.58 mm.

$$(10) \quad A_{\text{fch}} = P^2 - \frac{\pi D^2}{4}$$

$$(11) \quad G_{\text{ch}} = \frac{\dot{m}_{\text{ch}}}{A_{\text{fch}}}$$

$$(12) \quad T_{\text{exit}} = T_{\text{in}} + \Delta T_{\text{core}} = 293.1 + 33.7 = 326.8^\circ\text{C}, \text{ where } \Delta T_{\text{core}} = 33.7^\circ\text{C} \text{ from source } G.$$

$$(13) \quad \dot{m}_a = G_a A_{\text{fa}} = 3675.4 \times 2.444 \times 10^{-2} = 89.83 \text{ kg/s}$$

*Note:*  $\dot{m}_a N_a = 89.83 \times 193 = 17365 \text{ kg/s} \cong 99\% \dot{m}_{\text{core}}$ . The two core flows are different because of the water flow between the assemblies.

- (14) Using the data about guide tubes and the instrumentation tube cited in (9):

$$A_{\text{fa}} = l_{\text{ch}}^2 - \frac{\pi}{4} (N_{\text{gt}} D_{\text{gt}}^2 + N_{\text{it}} D_{\text{it}}^2 + N_{\text{rods}} D^2) \\ = 0.214^2 - \frac{\pi}{4} (24 \times 0.01158^2 + 1 \times 0.01229^2 + 264 \times 0.0095^2) \\ = 2.444 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}^2$$

$$(15) \quad Q^{\text{M}} = \frac{\dot{Q}_{\text{th}}}{f_{\text{HM}} M_{\text{fc}}}$$

where  $\dot{Q}_{\text{th}}$  = reactor thermal power

$f_{\text{HM}}$  = heavy metal fraction of core fuel material

$M_{\text{fc}}$  = mass of fuel material in the core

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