#### GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy

# Life Extension and Power Uprates

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# Outline

#### •EPU Fundamentals and Economics

- •How do you achieve EPU
- •EPU: higher steam quality, FW, Steam flows.
- •Economics
- Primary concerns with EPU
  - •Impact on Reliability, Design, Materials
  - •Typical EPU Mods/Pinchpoints
- •Impact of EPU on Plant Life Extension
  - •Current EPU Experience
  - •Survey of Literature
  - •What are primary concerns







### **EPU** Fundamentals

# **EPU Fundamentals**

### How EPU is achieved:

- EPU <u>reclaims the margins</u> available in the original plant design configuration
  - more realistic state-of-the art analysis methodologies.



- <u>Higher performance equipment</u> is installed to maintain safe plant operation.
  - The majority are in the <u>Balance-of-Plant</u> <u>& Turbine/Generator</u> areas.





# **EPU Fundamentals**

### **Economics**:

- The utility's decision on power uprate is based on a <u>cost/benefit evaluation</u>
  - must meet the financial metrics & long-term asset management plan.
- Regulatory approval to operate an additional 20 years
  - a large positive factor in the cost/benefit evaluation.



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# **EPU: Operational Domain**



- EPU will reduce both ends of the core window at rated power conditions.
  - Min core flow state point will "increase"
  - Max core flow state point will be reduced



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- •EPU results in increased Feedwater flow/Steam flow: •Core flow: small effect since Recirc flow.
- •EPU effect: 1-2% increase in core dP
  - <1% increase in JP SJ dP
  - Reduction in maximum core flow capability



# JP/EPU: EPU without Core flow increase?

Example #'s from BWR/5-251, CLTP 105%

	CLTP and ICF (105% CF)	EPU (120% OLTP, 104% CF)
Steam Flow / FW Flow (Mlb /hr)	15.1	17.7
Core Flow (Mlb /hr)	114 (7.5*steam)	112.7 (6.3*steam)
Steam Quality @ core exit	13.2%	16.2% (+3%)



•Example calculation:

Core flow is 6.3 times more than steam/FW flow.
Steam quality is +3% more than OLTP.

•112.7/ 17.7 \* 3%=19.0% more steam for same core flow.

•EPU achieved by increasing quality at core exit

• multiplied by (recirc flow/steam flow) ratio.



# **EPU Economics**

- Typical 120% power uprate :
  - cost approximately \$250MM to \$500MM.
- Plant economic and plant safety:
  - better reliability/availability performance
  - more robust and advanced designs of equipment upgrades/ replacements.
- 7 plants at 150MWe uprate = 1 new 1100 Mwe plant
  - Cost: \$1.75B to 3.5 B versus \$10+B







### Primary Concerns

### Impact on Reliability & Design Limits





### Impact on materials



• Need to gage material life.



# Summary of Typical EPU Mods

#### 1) NSSS

- Steam dryer replacement/modifications
- Power Range Neutron Monitoring system
- 2) BOP upgrade/replacement
- Feedwater heaters
- Condenser tube staking
- Condensate pump and/or motor Torus attached piping -
- Condensate demin filter
- Moisture-separator reaheater Cooling tower fan

- Feedpump motor and/or blade
- Iso-phase bus duct
- Switchgear
- 3) Turbine/Generator upgrade/replacement
- High pressure turbine replacement
- Generator rewind
- Hydrogen cooler for generator



- Most utilities will include other hardware modifications to maintain equipment reliability, availability and/or higher efficiency.
- This is important to successful long-term EPU operation.



# Non Hardware-Related Pinchpoints

- 1) Set point changes
  - calibrate to the new 100% rated thermal power condition
- 2) Reactor vessel overpressure design limit
- 3) Core thermal-hydraulic stability
- 4) Containment pressure/temperature limit
- 5) ATWS reactor vessel overpressure and containment P/T limit
- 6) RPV mechanical stress limit

#### Notes:

- A) Except for item 1, the remaining pinch points are addressed by using refined methodologies to meet the respective safety criteria.
  - For example, use TRACG (3-D) vs. ODYN (1-D method) for items 2 and 5.
- GEH has not experienced a hardware mod/replacement resulting from the pinch points.









### Impact of EPU on PLEX

### World Nuclear Plant Age





# Factors Impacting EPU Planning

#### **EPU Pinch Points**

- Licensing safety margins requirements
- Hardware capabilities

#### **Control System Capabilities**

- Data Rates / Data Quality / Data Availability
- Digital upgrades improve Safety Margin

#### **Design Basis Documentations**

- Completeness/Quality
- Retrievability

#### **Other Planned Initiatives**

- Technical rework
- Licensing constraint



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#### **Operational Margins**

- Equipment reliability/availability
- Plant Life Extension



#### **Project Management**

- Utility/Vendors interface
- Resources

### **Extended Power Uprate Experience**



Licensed Limit



# **Current EPU Experience**

- Several EPU projects were performed with 60-year plant life assumptions
- No resulting plant modifications linked to the 60 year assumption have been experienced
- Safety licensing criteria (such as CUF<1.0) are met with current or improved methodologies
  - Some plants are very close to operational limit, and additional actions may be necessary
- Is the trend going to be the same for +60 plant life condition?





# Literature Survey- Potential EPU Impacts

- RPV and Internals embrittlement
  - Increased fluence
  - Potential regulatory changes
- Water availability/conservation
- Cable Aging
  - Impact varies with plant specific application
- Concrete exposed to high temperature and radiation
- Weld Techniques Repair of irradiated materials
- Other Non-technical:
  - Lack of cohesive domestic Research Infrastructure.
  - Shortfall in trained workers at all levels.

and the list goes on...

• Public Opinion and Policy.







### **GEH PLEX Effort**



#### Initial Goal: 80 Year Life Asset Management Strategy and White Paper

- Clear strategic direction based on data analysis
- Clear cost/benefit analysis of future potential markets
- Multi-Generational Product Plan from short-term to long-term



# What will be Life Limiting?

- Currently no known generic issue that will limit plant life to less than 80 years
- Industry must develop technical bases for high risk life limiting issues
- Individual plants must assess their risk and
  - Maintain mitigation/contingency plans for high risk issues, and
  - Maintain life cycle and aging management to avoid obsolescence







### **QUESTIONS**?

Thank you!