A STUDY FOR DOSE DISTRIBUTION IN SPENT FUEL STORAGE POOL INDUCED BY NEUTRON AND GAMMA-RAY EMITTED IN SPENT FUELS

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With the reactor operation conditions - 4.3 wt%²³⁵U initial enrichment, burn-up 55,000 MWd/MTU, average power 34

MW/MTU for three periods burned time for 539.2 days per period and cooling time for 100 hours after shut down, to set up the condition to determine the minimum height (depth) of spent fuel storage pool to shut off the radiation out of the spent fuel storage pool and to store spent fuels safely, the dose rate on the specific position directed to the surface of spent fuel storage pool induced by the neutron and gamma-ray from spent fuels are evaluated. The length of spent fuel is 381 cm, and as the result of evaluation on each position from the top of spent fuel to the surface of spent fuel storage pool, it is difficult for neutrons from spent fuels to pass through the water layer of maximum 219 cm (600 cm from the floor of spent fuel storage pool) and 419 cm (800 cm from the floor of spent fuel storage pool) for gamma-ray. Therefore, neutron and gamma-ray from spent fuel storage pool.

Keywords : Spent Fuel, Spent Fuel Storage Pool, Dose Rate

1. INTRODUCTION

Spent fuels burned in reactor are cooled for about 100 hours to 150 hours and then they are discharged from reactor, transported to spent fuel storage pool and stored in spent fuel storage racks installed in on-site spent fuel storage pool filled with boric acid solution for long time.

Spent fuel storage pool usually has a capacity to store spent fuels for 20 years, unless it is used for short-term storage. It is located in the fuel building of nuclear power plant, and is composed of concrete structure with inner wall and floor clad by the stainless steel plates. Two places of inlet and outlet cooling pipes on the inner walls in spent fuel storage pool take a role to cool down the decay heat produced from spent fuels through the natural convection within boric acid solution environment.

The dimension of spent fuel storage pool, though it depends on the type of nuclear power plant, is usually

width 10 m to 11 m x length 8 m to 9 m x height (depth) 12 m to 13 m and it has a shape liked rectangular parallelepiped.

Considering the height of spent fuel storage rack -4 m to 5 m, there happens a 7 m to 9 m of boric acid solution layer between the top of the spent fuel storage rack and the surface of spent fuel storage pool.

In spent fuels stored in spent fuel storage rack, neutrons are continuously produced by an (α, n) reaction in Actinide series' nuclides and spontaneous fission reaction, etc. besides, gamma-ray is produced by fission products, Actinide series' nuclides and nuclides by the irradiated structures of spent fuels, etc.

In this study, the dose rate on the surface of spent fuel storage pool induced by the neutron and gamma-ray from spent fuels is evaluated, and it is also calculated at specific position on the way to the surface from the top of spent fuel storage rack.

However, in this study, the dose rate caused by the decay gamma-ray based on the boric acid solution and stainless steel plates irradiated by the radiation produced from spent fuels is not included.

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The regulatory requirement for the dose rate on the surface of spent fuel storage pool is described in reference 1[1] – "Observe the ALARA principle as much as it can and the dose rate on the surface of spent fuel storage pool should not exceed 25 μ Sv/hr".

The result of this study can be used as the basic data for setting up the condition to determine the minimum height (depth) of spent fuel storage pool to shut off the radiation out of the spent fuel storage pool and to store spent fuels safely.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Fuel Assembly

The fuel assembly applied in this study is ²³⁵U initial enrichment 4.3 wt% PLUS7 [2] spent fuels with its burned condition in reactor. PLUS7 is composed of 236 fuel rods and 5 zirconium guide thimbles which are assumed to be filled with water. Including the upper and lower parts of stainless steel structure in PLUS7, the overall length is 4528 mm. In this study, however, only

Table 1. Specification for PLUS7.

Description	Specification
FA Overall Length (cm)	452.8
Active Fuel Length (cm)	381.0
Pellet Diameter (cm)	0.81915
Fuel Rod Clad O.D (cm)	0.94996
Fuel Rod Clad I.D. (cm)	0.83566
Guide Tube O.D. (cm)	2.489
Guide Tube I.D. (cm)	2.2860
Number of Fuel Rods	236
Pitch (cm)	1.28524
Rod Array	16 x 16
Number of Guide Thimble	5
FA Weight (kg)	616
Clad Material	Zr



Fig. 1. Cross Sectional View of PLUS7.

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the active fuel length of 3810 mm is considered, and other parts are assumed to be filled with water. The detailed specification of PLUS7 is shown in Table 1, and the cross-sectional view is shown in Figure 1.

2.2 Spent Fuel Storage Rack [3]

The main material and structure of spent fuel storage rack applied in this study is a stainless steel plates with 2.5 mm thickness and 3810 mm length, which is a square pillar, called a cell, enclosing the fuel assembly. These cells are arrayed with a pitch of 277 mm along the X-Y direction. In reality, there are many stainless steel structures between cells and on the upper and lower parts of fuel assembly to support it. However, in this study, these structures are replaced by water to minimize the neutron absorption effect of stainless steel plates. Figure 2 shows the general type of spent fuel storage rack.



Fig. 2. Spent Fuel Storage Rack in Spent Fuel Storage Pool.

2.3 Spent Fuel Storage Pool

The spent fuel storage pool constructed in fuel building of nuclear power plant is the concrete structures with its inner walls and floor clad by the stainless steel plates. On the center of spent fuel storage pool floor, spent fuel storage rack with capacity of 100 spent fuels (10 x 10) is installed and it is assumed that spent fuel storage rack is fully filled with spent fuels. The dimension of spent fuel storage rack is width 2.7 m x length 2.7 m x height 3.81 m, and the depth of spent fuel storage pool is 10 m, so there happens the boric acid solution of 6.19 m between the top of spent fuel storage rack and the surface of spent fuel storage pool. The usual spent fuel storage pool is shown in Figure 2.

In this study, to make neutron and gamma-ray reach onto the surface of spent fuel storage pool, and to ignore the neutron absorption effect by Boron, the boric acid solution in spent fuel storage pool is replaced by water, and to minimize the neutron and gamma-ray absorption effect by surrounding structures like concrete, the spent fuel storage pool is modeled enough large by width and length.

2.4 Computer Code and Cross Section Library

Computer codes used in this study are as follows,

< SCALE 6.0 > [4]

The Standardized Computer Analyses for Licensing Evaluation (SCALE) software system developed at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) is widely used for nuclear applications such as problem-dependent resonance self-shielding of cross-section data, criticality safety, radiation source terms and shielding, sensitivity and uncertainly, and reactor physics analyses. Especially, to perform the burn-up calculation of spent fuel, XSDRNPM module for cross section processing and ORIGEN-ARP coupled with ORIGEN-S module for burn-up and decay calculation according to the cooling time are applied. SCALE is sponsored by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the U.S. Department of Energy.

< MCNPX > [5]

The Monte Carlo N-Particle transport code, MCNPX, developed at LANL (Los Alamos National Laboratory) and ENDF/B-VI cross section library were employed to calculate the dose rate in spent fuel storage pool. MCNPX is a general purpose Monte Carlo code for calculating the time-dependent continuous-energy transport of neutrons, photons and/or electrons in three-dimensional geometries. And it is most widely used in the field of criticality, shielding analysis and the verification evaluation, not only because of its high confidence but also its high variance reduction techniques to improve the efficiency of difficult calculations.

2.5 Analysis Condition

To evaluate the dose rate in spent fuel storage pool, following conditions should be prepared previously,

- Nuclides composition calculation for spent fuel by SCALE 6.0 system
- Neutron and gamma-ray source term calculation for spent fuels
- Fuel assembly (PLUS7) type including dimension and composites

Especially, neutron and gamma-ray source term is calculated with following conditions.

- ORIGEN-ARP/ORIGEN-S module and 27GROUPENDF4 cross section library in SCALE 6.0 system.
- Reactor core power level (It is assumed to be constant for all periods)
- Quantities of loaded fuel assembly
- -Burn-up and initial enrichment condition
- Cooling time in reactor after shut down (Divided into from 0.1 hour to 100 hours with a proper time interval)

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Nuclides Composition in Spent Fuel

To calculate the nuclides in spent fuels using ORIGEN - ARP, the necessary data is ²³⁵U initial enrichment (4.3 wt%), burn-up condition (55,000 MWd/MTU), cooling time in reactor after shut down (100 hours), average power level (34 MW/MTU for 3 periods) and burned time in reactor (539.2 Day per period). Uranium amount in fuel is set as 1 Ton and the density of cooling water during reactor operation is 0.71 g·cc⁻¹.

Table 2 and Figure 3 depict the results of spent fuel nuclides calculated by ORIGEN-ARP. The calculated nuclides are used for MCNPX input to evaluate the neutron and gamma-ray dose rate[6] in spent fuel storage pool.

Table 2. Nuclides in Spent Fuel.

	Time (Hours)							
Nuclide	1.00E-01	3.00E-01	1.00E+00	3.00E+00	1.00E+01	3.00E+01	1.00E+02	
			Units of Conce	entrations : grams	(basis = 1 MUT)			
u238	9.17E+05	9.17E+05	9.17E+05	9.17E+05	9.17E+05	9.17E+05	9.28E+05	
u235	6.40E+03	6.40E+03	6.40E+03	6.40E+03	6.40E+03	6.40E+03	6.40E+03	
pu239	6.08E+03	6.08E+03	6.08E+03	6.08E+03	6.09E+03	6.11E+03	6.14E+03	
u236	6.11E+03	6.11E+03	6.11E+03	6.11E+03	6.11E+03	6.11E+03	6.11E+03	
xe136	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	
pu240	3.05E+03	3.05E+03	3.05E+03	3.05E+03	3.05E+03	3.05E+03	3.05E+03	
xe134	2.53E+03	2.53E+03	2.53E+03	2.53E+03	2.53E+03	2.53E+03	2.53E+03	
ba138	2.15E+03	2.15E+03	2.15E+03	2.15E+03	2.15E+03	2.15E+03	2.15E+03	
ce140	2.07E+03	2.07E+03	2.07E+03	2.07E+03	2.07E+03	2.07E+03	2.07E+03	
la139	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	
cs137	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	2.00E+03	
xe132	1.95E+03	1.95E+03	1.95E+03	1.95E+03	1.95E+03	1.95E+03	1.95E+03	
nd144	1.92E+03	1.92E+03	1.92E+03	1.92E+03	1.92E+03	1.92E+03	1.92E+03	
pu241	1.88E+03	1.88E+03	1.88E+03	1.88E+03	1.88E+03	1.87E+03	1.87E+03	
ce142	1.84E+03	1.84E+03	1.84E+03	1.84E+03	1.84E+03	1.84E+03	1.84E+03	
pr141	1.78E+03	1.78E+03	1.78E+03	1.78E+03	1.78E+03	1.78E+03	1.78E+03	
cs133	1.77E+03	1.77E+03	1.77E+03	1.77E+03	1.77E+03	1.77E+03	1.77E+03	
mo100	1.56E+03	1.56E+03	1.56E+03	1.56E+03	1.56E+03	1.56E+03	1.56E+03	
ru102	1.37E+03	1.37E+03	1.37E+03	1.37E+03	1.37E+03	1.37E+03	1.37E+03	
mo98	1.36E+03	1.36E+03	1.36E+03	1.36E+03	1.36E+03	1.36E+03	1.36E+03	
mo97	1.33E+03	1.33E+03	1.33E+03	1.33E+03	1.33E+03	1.33E+03	1.33E+03	
zr96	1.31E+03	1.31E+03	1.31E+03	1.31E+03	1.31E+03	1.31E+03	1.31E+03	
ru101	1.28E+03	1.28E+03	1.28E+03	1.28E+03	1.28E+03	1.28E+03	1.28E+03	
zr94	1.25E+03	1.25E+03	1.25E+03	1.25E+03	1.25E+03	1.25E+03	1.25E+03	
tc99	1.23E+03	1.23E+03	1.23E+03	1.23E+03	1.23E+03	1.23E+03	1.24E+03	
nd146	1.21E+03	1.21E+03	1.21E+03	1.21E+03	1.21E+03	1.21E+03	1.21E+03	
nd143	1.14E+03	1.14E+03	1.14E+03	1.14E+03	1.14E+03	1.14E+03	1.14E+03	
zr93	1.13E+03	1.13E+03	1.13E+03	1.13E+03	1.13E+03	1.13E+03	1.13E+03	
mo95	1.10E+03	1.10E+03	1.10E+03	1.10E+03	1.10E+03	1.10E+03	1.10E+03	
pu242	1.05E+03	1.05E+03	1.05E+03	1.05E+03	1.05E+03	1.05E+03	1.05E+03	
nd145	1.04E+03	1.04E+03	1.04E+03	1.04E+03	1.04E+03	1.04E+03	1.04E+03	
zr92	1.03E+03	1.03E+03	1.03E+03	1.03E+03	1.03E+03	1.03E+03	1.03E+03	
ru104	9.73E+02	9.73E+02	9.73E+02	9.73E+02	9.73E+02	9.73E+02	9.73E+02	
zr91	9.06E+02	9.06E+02	9.07E+02	9.07E+02	9.07E+02	9.07E+02	9.08E+02	
sr90	8.31E+02	8.31E+02	8.31E+02	8.31E+02	8.31E+02	8.31E+02	8.31E+02	
np237	8.16E+02	8.16E+02	8.17E+02	8.17E+02	8.17E+02	8.18E+02	8.21E+02	
cs135	7.14E+02	7.14E+02	7.14E+02	7.14E+02	7.14E+02	7.14E+02	7.15E+02	
pd105	6.95E+02	6.95E+02	6.95E+02	6.95E+02	6.95E+02	6.96E+02	6.96E+02	
y89	6.92E+02	6.92E+02	6.92E+02	6.92E+02	6.92E+02	6.93E+02	6.93E+02	
rh103	6.51E+02	6.51E+02	6.51E+02	6.51E+02	6.51E+02	6.52E+02	6.54E+02	
Total	1.00E+06	1.00E+06	1.00E+06	1.00E+06	1.00E+06	1.00E+06	1.00E+06	

Table 2 shows the weight of nuclides in gram unit according to the cooling time after shut down before spent fuels are transported to the spent fuel storage rack. As shown in Table 2 and Figure 3, over 90% of the nuclides in spent fuels are 238 U, and there is few changes in nuclides' weight as per the cooling time. The reason why cooling time is set as 100 hours is that spent fuels are discharged and transported to the spent fuel storage rack after having been cooled in reactor for 100 hours.

Table 3 and Table 4 indicate the neutron and gammaray source intensity as per the separate energy group with cooling time after 3 periods burned in reactor, and the same results are shown in Figure 4 and Figure 5. As described in Table 3, in case of neutron source (neutrons/sec), right after the reactor shut down, over 80% of neutrons are ranged 0.1 MeV to 0.9 MeV, about 10% are ranged 0.017 MeV to 0.1 MeV and about 8% are ranged 0.9 MeV to 20 MeV.

	Poundaries (MeV)		Initial	0.1 hr	0.3 hr	1 hr	3 hr	10 hr	30 hr	100 hr	
gıp	boundaries (wev)		Total Neutron Spectra : neutrons/sec/1 MTU								
1	1.00E-11	-	1.00E-08	3.76E+07	8.26E+04	1.06E+01	3.90E-03	3.90E-03	3.90E-03	3.89E-03	3.86E-03
2	1.00E-08	-	3.00E-08	7.52E+07	1.65E+05	2.12E+01	5.80E-03	5.80E-03	5.80E-03	5.80E-03	5.76E-03
3	3.00E-08	-	5.00E-08	7.52E+07	1.65E+05	2.12E+01	6.56E-03	6.56E-03	6.56E-03	6.56E-03	6.53E-03
4	5.00E-08	-	1.00E-07	1.88E+08	4.13E+05	5.30E+01	1.99E-02	1.99E-02	1.99E-02	1.99E-02	1.98E-02
5	1.00E-07	-	2.25E-07	4.70E+08	1.03E+06	1.33E+02	6.73E-02	6.74E-02	6.74E-02	6.74E-02	6.72E-02
6	2.25E-07	-	3.25E-07	3.76E+08	8.27E+05	1.06E+02	6.83E-02	6.83E-02	6.83E-02	6.83E-02	6.81E-02
7	3.25E-07	-	4.00E-07	2.82E+08	6.20E+05	7.96E+01	5.86E-02	5.86E-02	5.86E-02	5.86E-02	5.84E-02
8	4.00E-07	-	8.00E-07	1.50E+09	3.31E+06	4.24E+02	3.98E-01	3.98E-01	3.99E-01	3.99E-01	3.97E-01
9	8.00E-07	-	1.00E-06	7.52E+08	1.65E+06	2.12E+02	2.42E-01	2.43E-01	2.43E-01	2.43E-01	2.42E-01
10	1.00E-06	-	1.13E-06	4.89E+08	1.08E+06	1.38E+02	1.71E-01	1.71E-01	1.71E-01	1.71E-01	1.71E-01
11	1.13E-06	-	1.30E-06	6.39E+08	1.41E+06	1.80E+02	2.38E-01	2.38E-01	2.38E-01	2.38E-01	2.38E-01
12	1.30E-06	-	1.77E-06	1.77E+09	3.89E+06	4.99E+02	7.37E-01	7.37E-01	7.38E-01	7.38E-01	7.36E-01
13	1.77E-06	-	3.05E-06	4.81E+09	1.06E+07	1.36E+03	2.50E+00	2.50E+00	2.50E+00	2.50E+00	2.49E+00
14	3.05E-06	-	1.00E-05	2.61E+10	5.75E+07	7.39E+03	2.20E+01	2.20E+01	2.20E+01	2.20E+01	2.19E+01
15	1.00E-05	-	3.00E-05	7.52E+10	1.65E+08	2.13E+04	1.11E+02	1.11E+02	1.11E+02	1.11E+02	1.11E+02
16	3.00E-05	-	1.00E-04	2.63E+11	5.79E+08	7.49E+04	7.06E+02	7.06E+02	7.07E+02	7.07E+02	7.05E+02
17	1.00E-04	-	5.50E-04	1.69E+12	3.72E+09	4.87E+05	1.00E+04	1.00E+04	1.00E+04	1.00E+04	1.00E+04
18	5.50E-04	-	3.00E-03	9.21E+12	2.03E+10	2.72E+06	1.27E+05	1.27E+05	1.27E+05	1.27E+05	1.27E+05
19	3.00E-03	-	1.70E-02	6.27E+13	1.95E+11	2.67E+07	1.72E+06	1.72E+06	1.72E+06	1.72E+06	1.72E+06
20	1.70E-02	-	1.00E-01	4.07E+14	6.90E+11	1.12E+08	2.41E+07	2.41E+07	2.41E+07	2.41E+07	2.40E+07
21	1.00E-01	-	4.00E-01	1.64E+15	1.95E+12	4.10E+08	1.63E+08	1.63E+08	1.64E+08	1.64E+08	1.63E+08
22	4.00E-01	-	9.00E-01	1.57E+15	4.23E+11	4.05E+08	3.56E+08	3.56E+08	3.57E+08	3.57E+08	3.56E+08
23	9.00E-01	-	1.40E+00	3.12E+14	1.61E+10	3.58E+08	3.58E+08	3.58E+08	3.58E+08	3.58E+08	3.57E+08
24	1.40E+00	-	1.85E+00	1.85E+13	8.02E+08	2.89E+08	2.89E+08	2.90E+08	2.90E+08	2.90E+08	2.89E+08
25	1.85E+00	-	3.00E+00	5.58E+08	5.58E+08	5.58E+08	5.58E+08	5.59E+08	5.59E+08	5.59E+08	5.57E+08
26	3.00E+00	-	6.43E+00	5.08E+08	5.07E+08						
27	6.43E+00	-	2.00E+01	4.48E+07	4.48E+07	4.48E+07	4.48E+07	4.48E+07	4.49E+07	4.49E+07	4.48E+07
totals				4.02E+15	3.30E+12	2.72E+09	2.30E+09	2.30E+09	2.31E+09	2.31E+09	2.30E+09

Table 3. Neutron Intensity with Cooling Time.

Table 4. Gamma-ray Intensity with Cooling Time.

	Boundaries (MeV)		0.1 hr	0.3 hr	1 hr	3 hr	10 hr	30 hr	100 hr	
grp	Boundaries (Ivie V)		Total Gamma Spectra : photons/sec/1 MTU							
1	1.00E-02	-	5.00E-02	1.52E+18	1.27E+18	9.85E+17	8.15E+17	6.82E+17	5.26E+17	2.99E+17
2	5.00E-02	-	1.00E-01	7.96E+17	6.25E+17	3.86E+17	2.73E+17	2.28E+17	1.80E+17	1.10E+17
3	1.00E-01	-	2.00E-01	8.86E+17	7.76E+17	6.58E+17	5.79E+17	5.07E+17	3.99E+17	2.00E+17
4	2.00E-01	-	3.00E-01	5.43E+17	4.77E+17	4.09E+17	3.72E+17	3.32E+17	2.47E+17	1.07E+17
5	3.00E-01	-	4.00E-01	3.60E+17	2.74E+17	1.64E+17	1.18E+17	9.90E+16	8.05E+16	5.17E+16
6	4.00E-01	-	6.00E-01	5.81E+17	4.68E+17	3.51E+17	2.76E+17	2.23E+17	1.71E+17	1.25E+17
7	6.00E-01	-	8.00E-01	6.86E+17	6.08E+17	5.22E+17	4.42E+17	3.66E+17	2.81E+17	1.94E+17
8	8.00E-01	-	1.00E+00	4.53E+17	3.58E+17	2.40E+17	1.28E+17	7.33E+16	5.58E+16	3.89E+16
9	1.00E+00	-	1.33E+00	2.56E+17	1.91E+17	1.25E+17	8.46E+16	5.06E+16	2.59E+16	1.38E+16
10	1.33E+00	-	1.66E+00	2.34E+17	1.99E+17	1.46E+17	1.01E+17	7.60E+16	6.67E+16	5.66E+16
11	1.66E+00	-	2.00E+00	8.52E+16	6.25E+16	3.75E+16	2.16E+16	9.33E+15	3.35E+15	1.72E+15
12	2.00E+00	-	2.50E+00	8.86E+16	6.37E+16	3.42E+16	1.58E+16	5.57E+15	3.52E+15	2.82E+15
13	2.50E+00	-	3.00E+00	4.08E+16	2.77E+16	1.43E+16	5.81E+15	2.21E+15	1.96E+15	1.72E+15
14	3.00E+00	-	4.00E+00	1.67E+16	9.35E+15	3.72E+15	1.16E+15	6.98E+13	1.63E+13	1.44E+13
15	4.00E+00	-	5.00E+00	1.24E+15	1.87E+14	4.33E+13	1.85E+13	3.21E+12	2.44E+10	7.84E+07
16	5.00E+00	-	6.50E+00	1.04E+14	3.39E+12	1.51E+11	9.17E+10	1.66E+10	1.58E+08	3.15E+07
17	6.50E+00	-	8.00E+00	1.70E+11	2.60E+07	6.18E+06	6.19E+06	6.19E+06	6.19E+06	6.17E+06
18	8.00E+00	-	1.00E+01	1.31E+06						
totals				6.55E+18	5.41E+18	4.07E+18	3.23E+18	2.65E+18	2.04E+18	1.20E+18



Fig. 3. Nuclides in Spent Fuel.



Fig. 4. Neutron Intensity with Cooling Time after Shutdown.



Fig. 5. Gamma-ray Intensity with Cooling Time after Shutdown.

As cooling time passes by in reactor, there happens few changes in quantities for neutrons over 1.85 MeV, however, conversely, neutrons below 1.85 MeV decreased in quantities abruptly, so, 100 hours after shut down, over 48% of neutrons are ranged as 1.85 MeV to 20 MeV and about 44% are 0.4 MeV to 1.85 MeV. It means that most neutrons having an effect on the surface of spent fuel storage pool are the ones ranged 0.4 MeV to 20 MeV. In case of gamma-ray, 6 minutes after shut down, about 49% of them are 0.01 MeV to 0.2 MeV, 40% are 0.2 MeV to 1 MeV, 10% are 1 MeV to 2.5 MeV and just 1% of them is 2 MeV to 10 MeV. And, even 100 hours after shut down, gamma-ray intensity as per the separate energy group is almost same with the above results (6 minutes after shut down).

3.2 Neutron Dose Rate at Specified Position in Spent Fuel Storage Pool

Figure 6 shows the spent fuel storage rack installed on the floor of spent fuel storage pool which is filled with spent fuels and water. The width and length of spent fuel storage rack are 2.7 m each and the height is 3.8 m. The reason why 3.8 m is set as the height of spent fuel storage rack is that the overall length of Active Fuel Length of spent fuel is 3.8 m. The overall size of spent fuel storage pool is 20 m x 20 m x 10 m.

To calculate the neutron dose rate at specified position in spent fuel storage pool, it is divided as many areas from the top of spent fuel storage rack toward the surface in spent fuel storage pool as shown in Figure 7 – the positions are 400 cm, 500 cm, 600 cm, 700 cm, 800 cm, 900 cm, 1000 cm apart from the floor of spent fuel storage pool and the dose rate is calculated at each position. Nuclides and composite from spent fuels are applied as the same ones calculated in section 3.1 and neutron source intensity as per the energy group is also applied as the same results calculated in section 3.1.



Fig. 6. Areas from the Top of Spent Fuel Storage Rack in Spent Fuel Storage Pool.

Z Axis Position From Floor (cm)	Neutron Fluence (#/cm ²)	Neutron Intensity (Neutron/sec, 10x10 FA)	mSv/h
400	7.06E-12		7.05E-01
500	2.19E-16		2.19E-05
600	0.00E+00		0.00E+00
700	0.00E+00	1.00E+11	0.00E+00
800	0.00E+00		0.00E+00
900	0.00E+00		0.00E+00
1000	0.00E+00		0.00E+00

Table 5. Neutron Dose Rate.

Table 6. Gamma-ray Dose Rate.

Z Axis Position From Floor (cm)	Gamma-ray Fluence (#/cm ²)	Gamma-ray Intensity (Photon/sec, 10x10 FA)	mSv/h
400	8.87E-14		4.64E+06
500	8.99E-17		4.70E+03
600	4.00E-19		2.09E+01
700	1.67E-21	5.23E+19	8.73E-02
800	0.00E+00		0.00E+00
900	0.00E+00		0.00E+00
1000	0.00E+00		0.00E+00



Fig. 7. Neutron Dose Rate as per the Position from the Floor of Spent Fuel Storage Pool.

As described in Table 5, neutrons are perceived from the top of spent fuel storage rack to the position of 119 cm (500 cm from the floor) upward to the surface of spent fuel storage pool. It means that it is possible for neutrons to pass through the water layer of maximum 219 cm (600 cm from the floor of spent fuel storage pool) from the top of spent fuel storage rack. Figure 7 and Figure 9 describe the neutron dose rate from the floor to the surface of spent fuel storage pool.

3.3 Gamma-ray Dose Rate at Specified Position in Spent Fuel Storage Pool

Gamma-ray dose rate at specified position from the floor to the surface of spent fuel storage pool is also performed using the spent fuel nuclides calculated in section 3.1 and gamma-ray intensity with energy group. As depicted in Table 6, gamma-ray has an effect to 319 cm (700 cm from the floor) from the top of spent fuel storage rack. It means that it is possible for gamma-ray to move upward to the surface about 200 cm farther than neutron, and gamma-ray can pass through below 419 cm (800 cm from the floor) of water layer from the top of spent fuel storage rack. Figure 8 and Figure 10 show the gamma-ray dose rate at specified position from the floor to the surface of spent fuel storage pool.



Fig. 8. Gamma-ray Dose Rate as per the Position from the Floor of Spent Fuel Storage Pool.



Fig. 9. Neutron Dose Rate with Distance from the Floor of Spent Fuel Storage Pool.



Fig. 10. Gamma-ray Dose Rate with Distance from the Floor of Spent Fuel Storage Pool.

3.4 Total Dose Rate at Specified Position in Spent Fuel Storage Pool

Table 7 and Figure 11 describe the total dose rate, gamma-ray plus neutron, calculated in section 3.2 and 3.3. Because gamma-ray dose rate at specified position is much greater than neutron dose rate, so, total dose rate is proportional to the gamma-ray dose rate. That is, neutron and gamma-ray from spent fuel can pass through below 419 cm (800 cm from the floor) water layer directed to the surface of spent fuel storage pool.

Table 7. Total Dose Rate.

Z Axis Position From Floor (cm)	mSv/h
400	4.64E+06
500	4.70E+03
600	2.09E+01
700	8.73E-02
800	0.00E+00
900	0.00E+00
1000	0.00E+00



Fig. 11. Total Dose Rate with Distance from the Floor of Spent Fuel Storage Pool.

4. CONCLUSION

Fuel assembly (PLUS7) with its burned condition – initial enrichment 4.3 wt%, burn-up 55,000 MWd/MTU, average power 34 MW/MTU for three periods burned time 539.2 days per period and cooling time for 100 hours after shut down, spent fuels discharged from reactor are transported to the spent fuel storage rack, and neutron and gamma-ray from spent fuel can pass through below 419 cm (800 cm from the floor) water layer directed to the surface of spent fuel storage pool.

Therefore, the depth, 1000 cm (619 cm from the top of spent fuel storage rack), between the floor and the surface of spent fuel storage pool applied in this study abides by the requirements (dose rate on the surface does not exceed 25 μ Sv·hr⁻¹) provided in ANSI/ANS-57.2-1983 and can store spent fuels safely on the aspect of ALARA.

Considering the usual depth of 12 m in spent fuel storage pool, it is possible to shield the neutron and gamma-ray during normal operation, however, if there happens a coolant leakage accident in spent fuel storage pool, to shut off the neutron and gamma-ray outside the spent fuel storage pool, so, to decide the minimum surface height of spent fuel storage pool, the result of this study can be applied.

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