

Shutdown margin. The specified control rod insertion limits meet the design basis criteria on (1) potential ejected control rod worth and peaking factor,⁽⁴⁾ (2) radial power peaking factors, F_{AH} , and (3) required margin shutdown.

The various control rod banks (shutdown banks, control banks) are each to be moved as a bank; that is, with all rods in the bank within one step (5/8 inch) of the bank position. Position indication is provided by two methods: a digital count of actuation pulses which shows the demand position of the banks, and a linear position indicator (LVDT) which indicates the actual rod position.⁽²⁾ At rod positions ≥ 200 steps, full power reactivity worths of the control rods are sufficiently small such that a 15-inch indicated misalignment from the rod bank has no significant effect on the incore power distribution and is therefore allowable. For rod positions < 200 steps, maintaining indicated rod position within 7.5 inches of the average of the indicated bank position provides an enforceable limit which assures design distribution is not exceeded. In the event that an LVDT is not in service, the effects of a malpositioned control rod are observable on nuclear and process information displayed in the control room and by core thermocouples and in-core movable detectors. The determination of the hot channel factors will be performed by means of the movable in-core detectors.

The two hours in 3.10.1.5 are acceptable because the misalignment of a single control rod up to 9 feet above its bank or 12 feet below its bank does not result in exceeding core safety limits in steady state operation at rated power and is short with respect to probability of an independent accident. If the condition cannot be readily corrected, the specified reduction in power will ensure that design margins to core limits will be maintained under both steady state and anticipated transient conditions.