

ANS Issues Clarification on ANSI/ANS-5.1-1994, “Decay Heat Power in Light Water Reactors.”

(*Nuclear News*, October 2004)

Inquiry:

The ANS-5.1 standard uses a variable “T” which is the total operating period of the reactor. Is “T” equivalent to the effective full power days of a single fuel cycle or that of multiple cycles?

Response:

In Section 3.1 of ANSI/ANS-5.1-1994, “T” is defined as the total operating period, including intermediate periods at zero power, in seconds. It is the total time from the first irradiation of the fuel until final exposure. For fuel that has been in the reactor for multiple cycles, this time would include the intermediate times at zero power between cycles. (“T” does not include the decay time following the final exposure; this time is captured in the parameter T’, which also starts at the initial reactor startup.)

ANS-5.1 does not address effective full power days.