

Data

OPERATION

First Critical, November 7th, 1956.
Official opening, November 21st, 1956.
Normally operates at between 12½/15 MW

FUEL

Enriched uranium alloy, annular type Mk. III E.
Alloy composition: 90% uranium, 10% aluminium clad.
Plate form: 23.6 in. x 2.36 in. x 0.058 in.
Curvature: on radius 5½ in.
Assembly: 4" OD, 2" ID, 10 plates per element.
Total investment: 3.75 kg.

CLADDING

Aluminium; SIC 99.5% purity.
Treatment: Aluminium sheet, welded on three sides, rolled.

MODERATOR

Heavy water.
Total investment: 10 tons.

CORE

Reacting core: 34 in. x 28 in. x 24 in. high.
Core tank: 99.8% purity A1, 6 ft. 7 in. diameter.
Lattice: basically square, central row displaced, 6 in. pitch.
Number of fuel elements: 25.

REFLECTOR

Graphite.
Segmental blocks, lead bound.
Radial thickness: 24 in.

COOLANT

Heavy water. Total Flow Rate 1000 lbs/sec.
Water Velocity: through elements: 14.9 ft/sec.

FLUX

Maximum thermal neutron flux:
2.2 x 10¹⁰ n/cm²-sec.

CONTROL

Coarse control/shut-off: six in number.
Construction: 0.080 in. thick cadmium sheet, welded between 20 S.W.G. stainless-steel sheet.
Size: Core: 4 ft. 10 in. long. Area of Cadmium sheet: 12,000 cm².
Fine control rod: one in number.
Construction: 24 in. long, 255 cm² cylinder contained between two stainless-steel tubes.
Safety rods: two in number.
Construction: Stainless-steel tube containing 990 cm³ cadmium cylinder, 30 in. long.

SHIELDING

Top: Inner: 2 mm. Cadmium, 4 in. water-cooled lead.
Intermediate: Steel shot concrete.
Outer: Cast iron and steel.

Side and bottom: Steel shot concrete.

Inner: Boral plates.
Intermediate: steel tank 10 ft. 10½ in. I.D. x 13 ft. 2 in. high, skin thickness ¾ in., ¼ in. bottom plate, 4 in. water-cooled lead.
Outer: Barytes concrete, 5 ft. thick.

OVERALL SIZE

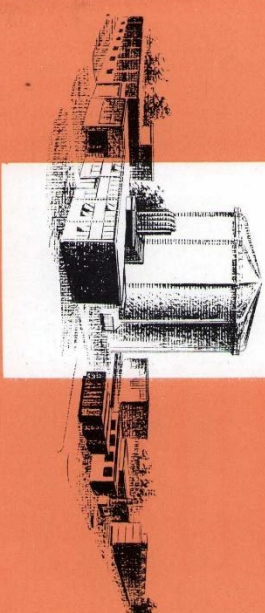
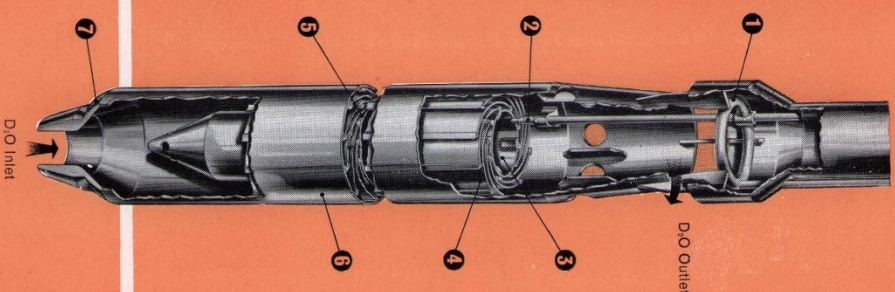
Ten-sided prism 22 ft. across flats, height 17 ft. from operating floor, 32 ft. from lower floor.

OUTER SHELL

Steel building, 70 ft. diameter, normally at ½ in. W.G. below atmosphere, will withstand 3 p.s.i. internal pressure.

1. Emergency cooling Spray Nozzle
2. Thermocouple Tube
3. Central Hole which will accommodate a 2" experimental thimble
4. Fuel Plate
5. Inner aluminium tube
6. Outer aluminium tube
7. Spherical seat

Mk III Fuel Element

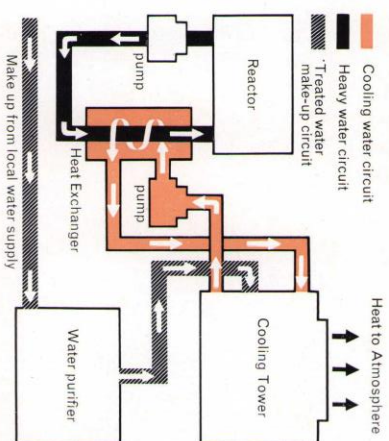


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HEAVY WATER REACTOR

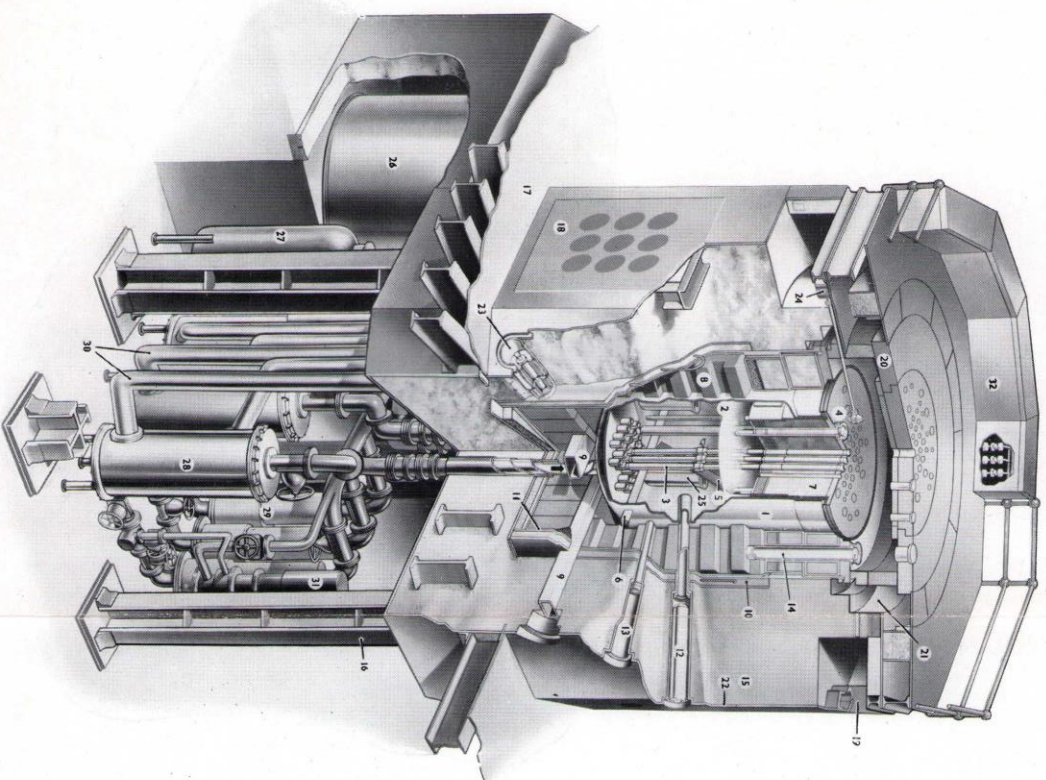
ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT, HARWELL

Reactor Cooling System



Purpose

- To test fuels, coolants and materials for possible use in future Power Reactors.
- To produce high specific activity isotopes for Medical and Industrial uses.
- To further research in Nuclear and Solid State Physics, Chemistry and Metallurgy.



- REACTOR ALUMINUM TANK CONTAINING HEAVY WATER
- HEAVY WATER LEVEL
- FUEL ELEMENT
- VERTICAL EXPERIMENTAL HEAVY WATER TANK
- EXPERIMENTAL ARMS
- EXPERIMENTAL HOLE 4' x 1" (2 Tan Hole)
- TOP BIOLOGICAL SHIELD
- GRAPHITE REFLECTOR
- EXPERIMENTAL HOLES 12' x 8' (12 HGR Holes)
- LEAD THERMAL SHIELD (WATER COOLED)
- REACTOR STEEL TANK WITH BORAL SHEET LINING
- EXPERIMENTAL HOLE ENTERING HEAVY WATER ZONE
- EXPERIMENTAL HOLE ENTERING GRAPHITE ZONE
- VERTICAL EXPERIMENTAL ZONE ENTERING GRAPHITE ZONE
- CONCRETE BIOLOGICAL SHIELD
- REACTOR SUPPORTING STRUCTURE
- FIRST FLOOR
- THERMAL COLUMN
- HOLLOW STANCHIONS COMMUNICATING WITH BASE OF REACTOR
- 14" THICK STEEL TOP PLATE AND RING DUCT FOR EXPERIMENTAL SERVICES
- BIOLOGICAL SHIELD CASING PLATES
- ION CHAMBER
- FINE CONTROL ROD GEAR BOX
- HEAVY WATER OUTLET PIPE
- HEAVY WATER STORAGE TANK
- HEAVY WATER DUMP TANK
- HEAVY WATER HEAT EXCHANGERS
- HEAVY WATER MAIN CIRCULATION PUMP
- SECONDARY COOLING TOWER (COOLING TOWERS)
- HEAVY WATER EMERGENCY CIRCULATOR
- EXPERIMENT COOLING SYSTEM