



# **EPRI Radiation Management Program: Review of Radiation Field Reduction Strategies**



**ISOE Asian Technical Center ALARA  
Symposium**

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# Overview

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## **EPRI Support of RP2020**

## **Boiling Water Reactor Highlights**

- Elemental cobalt measurements
- BWR Shutdown Calculations

## **Pressurized Water Reactor Highlights**

- Dose Rate Trends

## **Radiation Protection Technology Demonstrations**

# RP2020 Mission

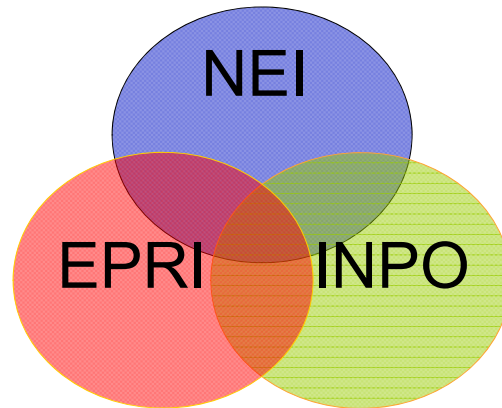
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**Reshape radiological protection at nuclear power plants to achieve significant improvements in safety performance and cost-effectiveness.**

# Partners in Creating RP 2020

Radiation Protection Managers

Chief Nuclear Officers



NEI = Policy  
INPO = Performance  
EPRI = Research

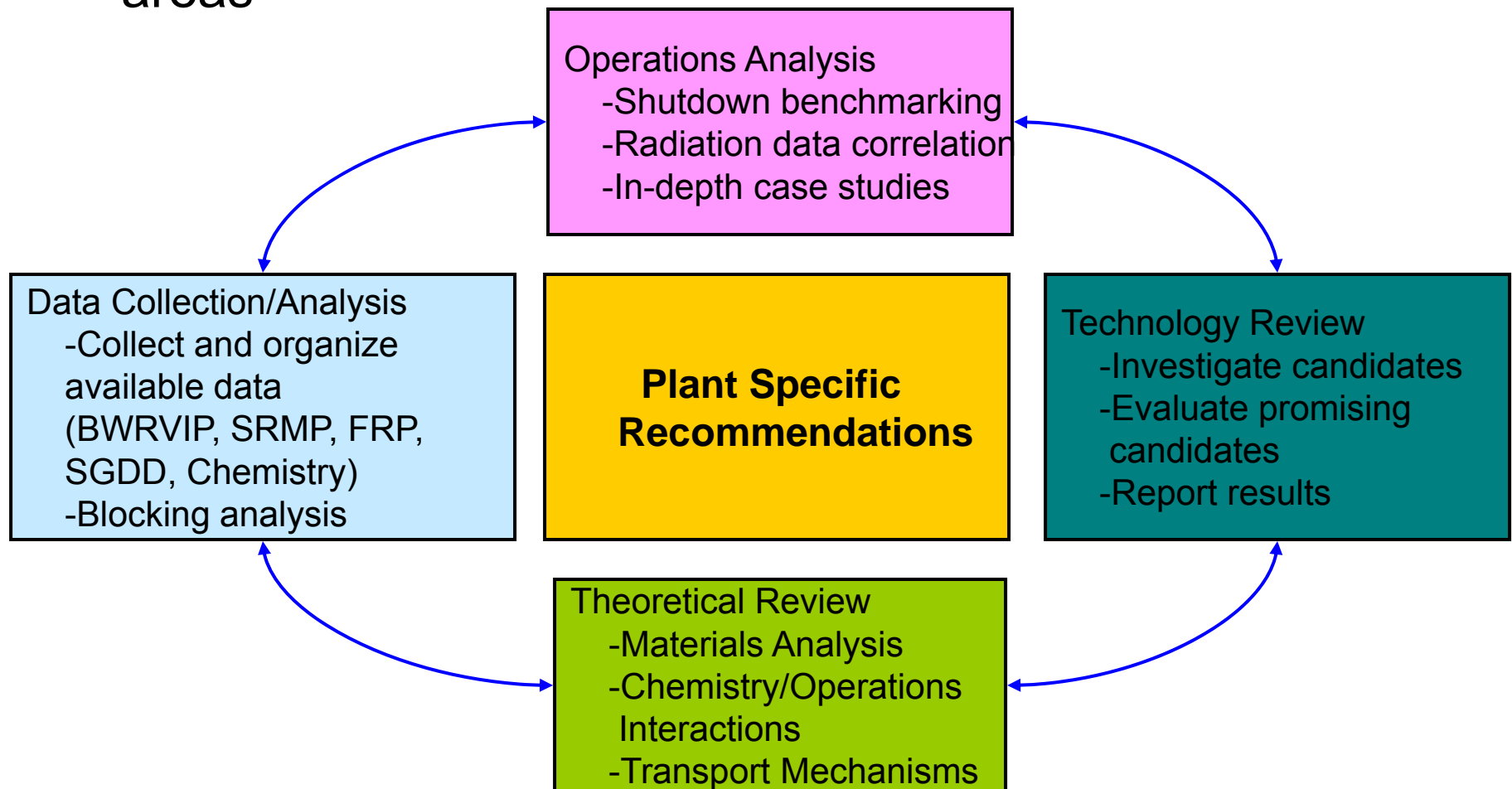
# RP2020 Strategies and EPRI Status

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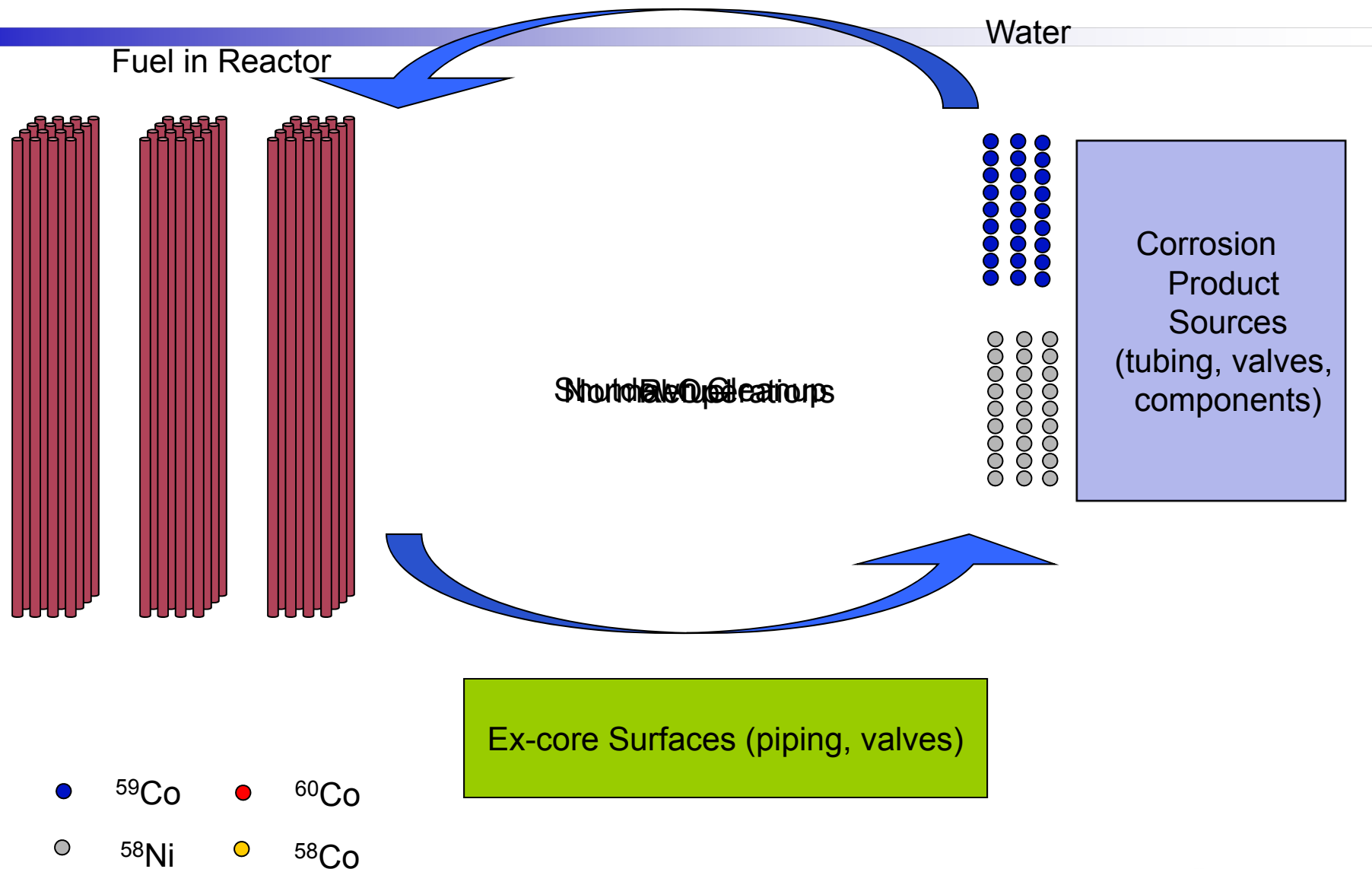
- **Reduce radiation fields—EPRI**
- **Improve technologies utilization—EPRI**
- Standardize RP criteria & practices—ALL
- Redefine RP roles/responsibilities—  
NEI/INPO/EPRI
- Influence RP regulations—NEI

# Source Term Reduction Program Strategy

- EPRI Source Term Reduction Program focuses on four areas



# Source Term Activation and Transport



# Source Term Magnitude By Location

## PWR Example

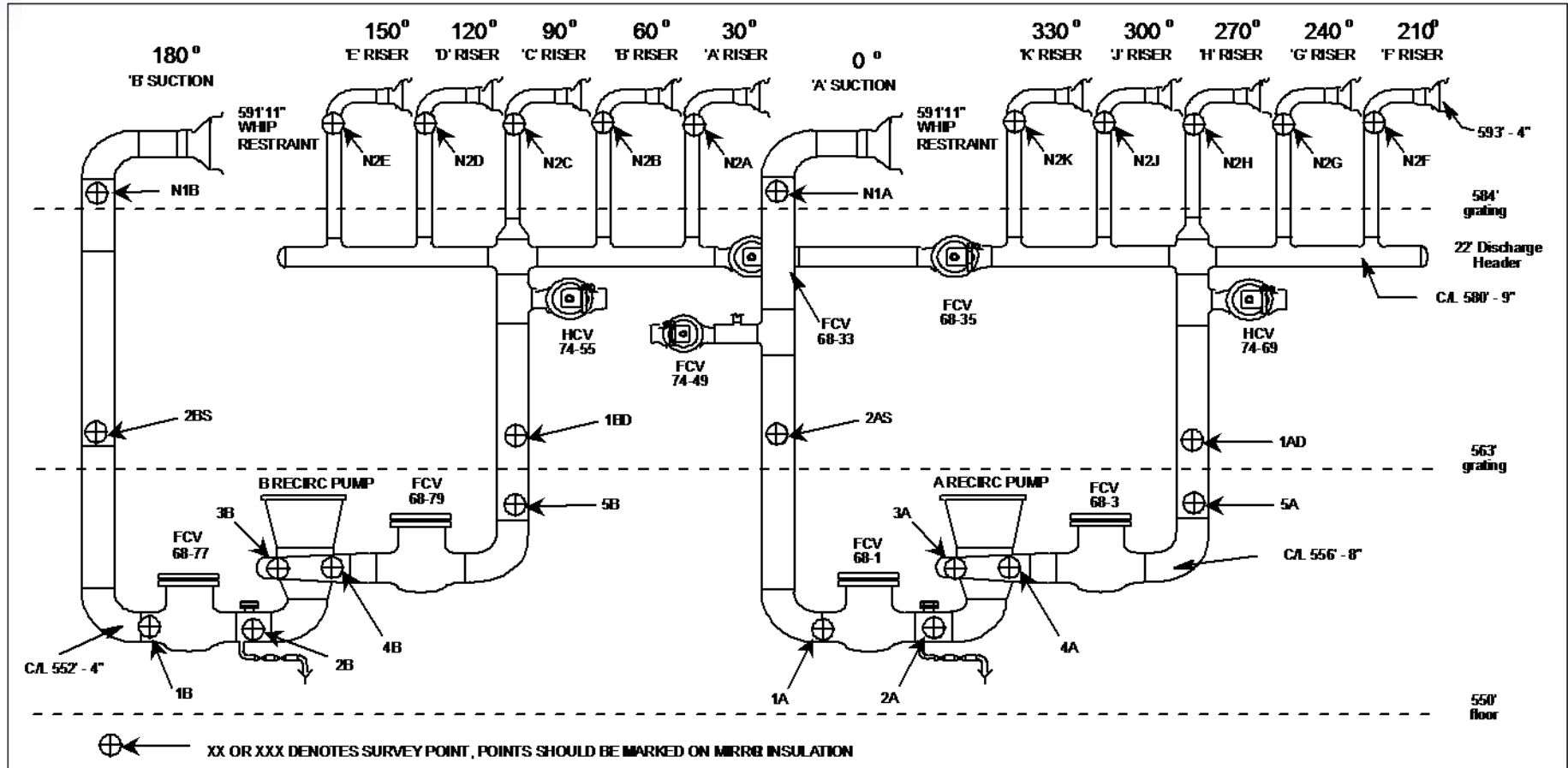
Location	Surface Loading (uCi/cm <sup>2</sup> )	Total Curies
Fuel	Co-58 = 250 Co-60 = 12	~10,000-15,000 Ci Co-58 ~500-750 Ci Co-60
Removal During Shutdown	N/A	500-5000 Ci Co-58 5-50 Ci Co-60
Ex-core Surfaces (including tubing, piping, channel heads)	Co-58 = 8 Co-60 = 3	~150-200 Ci Co-58 ~ 70 Ci Co-60



# BWR Source Term Reduction Project

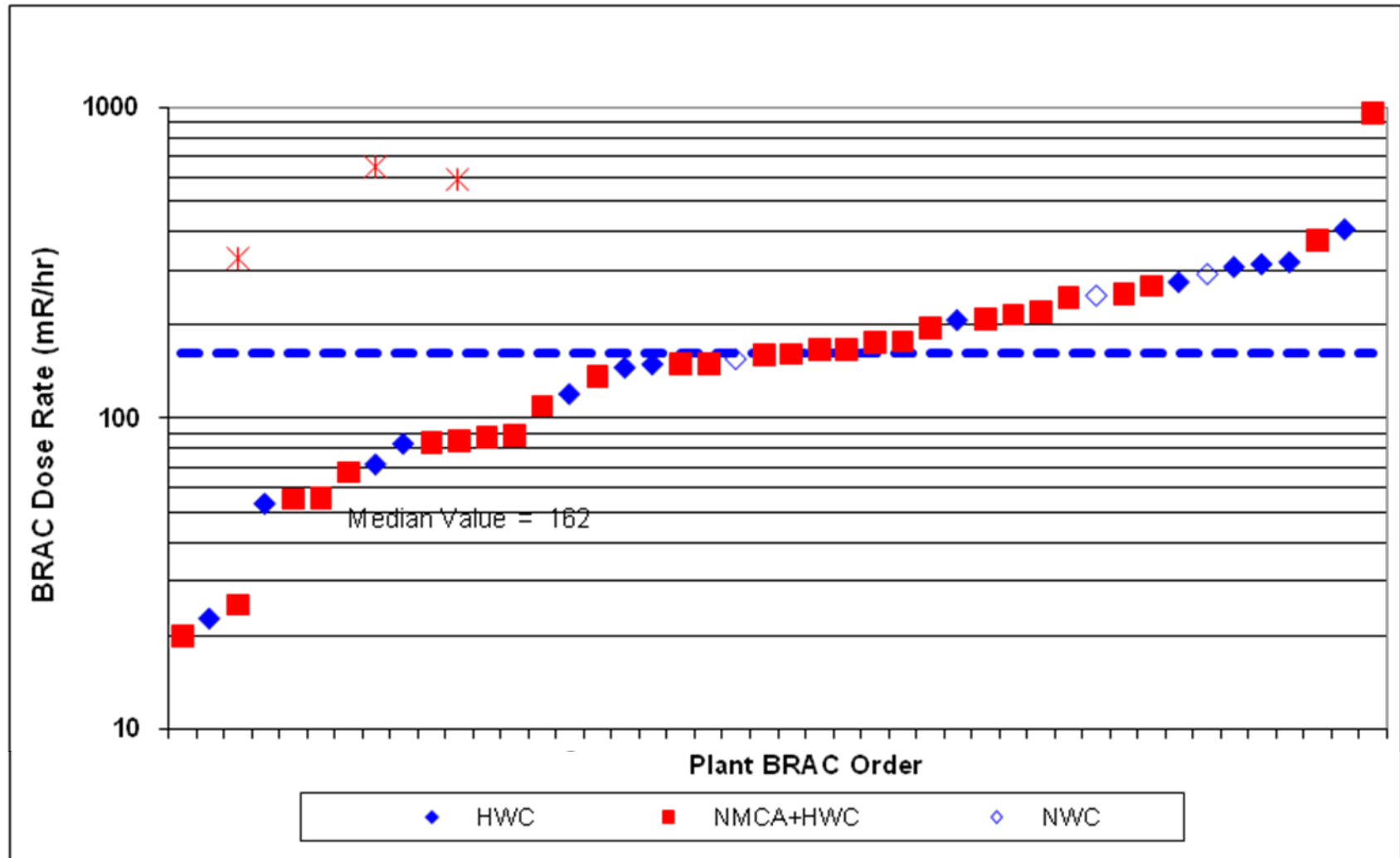
- BWR Source Term Reduction – Estimating Cobalt Transport to the Reactor (Report #1018371)
- Goals of Project
  - Identify how plants measure cobalt
  - Target cobalt sources
  - Benchmark cobalt transport to reactor
  - Quantify removal and releases during shutdown and normal operations

# BRAC Measurement Points



# BRAC Radiation Fields (June 2008)

## *Mitigation Strategy*

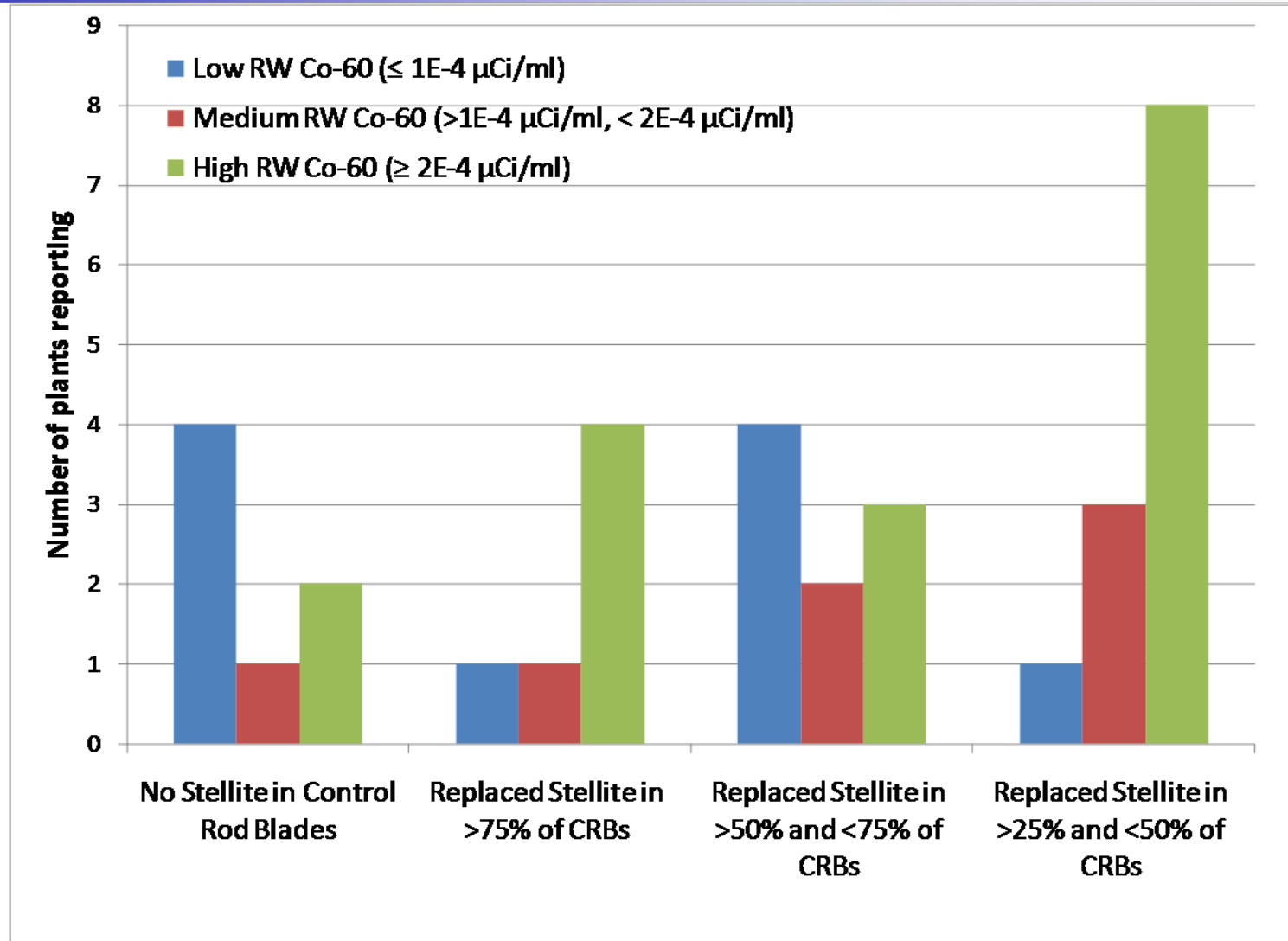


# BWR Benchmarking/Source Term Ranking

## ❑ Co-60 Categories and BRAC

Parameter	Low Rxtor Water Co-60 Plants ( $\leq 1\text{E-}4 \mu\text{Ci/ml}$ )	Moderate Reactor Water Co-60 Plants ( $>1\text{E-}4 \mu\text{Ci/ml}$ , $< 2\text{E-}4 \mu\text{Ci/ml}$ )	High Reactor Water Co-60 Plants ( $\geq 2\text{E-}4 \mu\text{Ci/ml}$ )
Average Co-60; $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$	7.95E-5	1.38E-4	4.13E-4
Median Co-60; $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$	6.48E-5	1.40E-4	2.79E-4
Co-60 Range; $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$	1.94E-5 to 2.74E-4	5.98E-5 to 3.29E-4	9.42E-5 to 1.83E-3
Average BRAC; mR/hr	130	251	262
Median BRAC; mR/hr	89	261	168
BRAC Range; mR/hr	23-406	150-375	20-965

# Impact of Control Rod Blade Replacement on Reactor Water Cobalt



# BWR Summary and Recommendations

## ➤ Recommendations

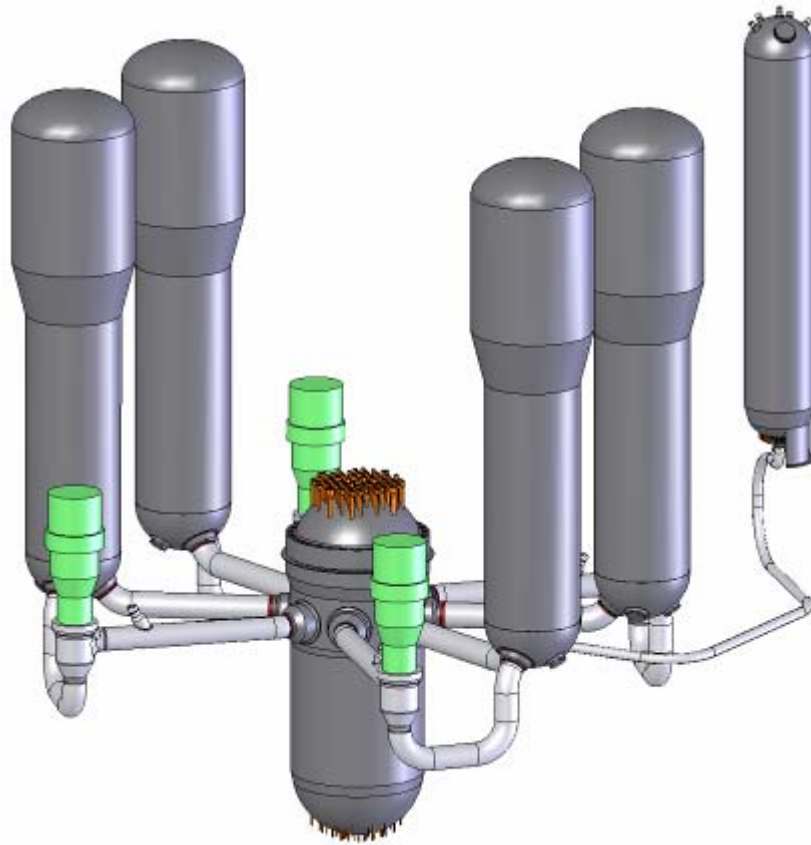
1. Plants should update cobalt source term reduction status (CRBs, turbine components, valves, etc.)
2. Conduct industry survey to see if plants have performed NP-2263 source identification evaluations
3. Conduct a further evaluation on elemental cobalt sampling with focus on sample collection, preparation and analytical methods

# PWR Source Term Reduction

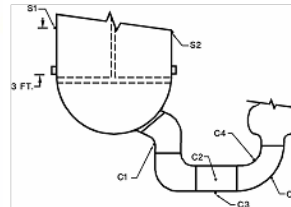
## *Technology Evaluations—Report 1016767*

- Key Results
  - Zinc continues to show significant radiation benefits
  - pH effects noticed when comparing before and after PWR Primary Guidelines
    - Ringhals, San Onofre report benefits of elevated pH
    - Comanche Peak 1 and 2 do not show clear benefits
  - Long term benefits of electropolishing are noted

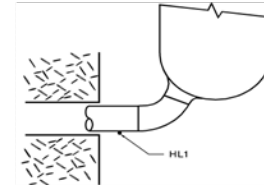
# Westinghouse SRMP Monitoring Points



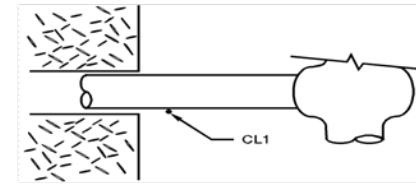
Loop piping



Crossover piping and SG

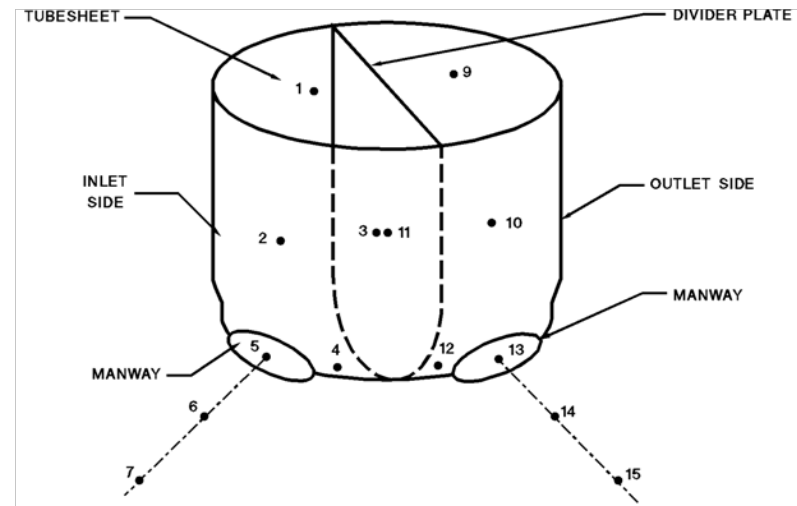


Hot leg piping



Cold leg piping

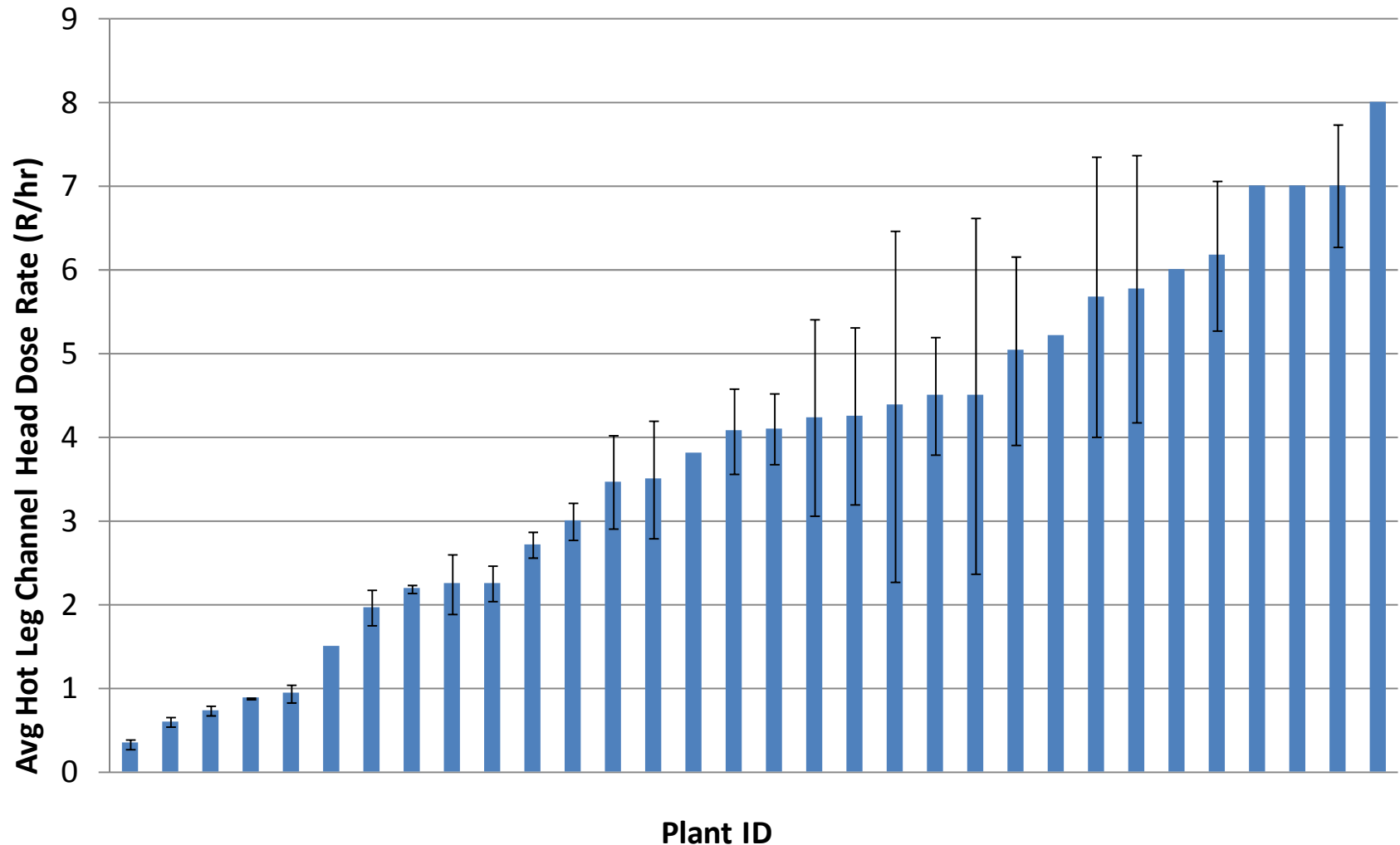
Steam Generator Channel Head





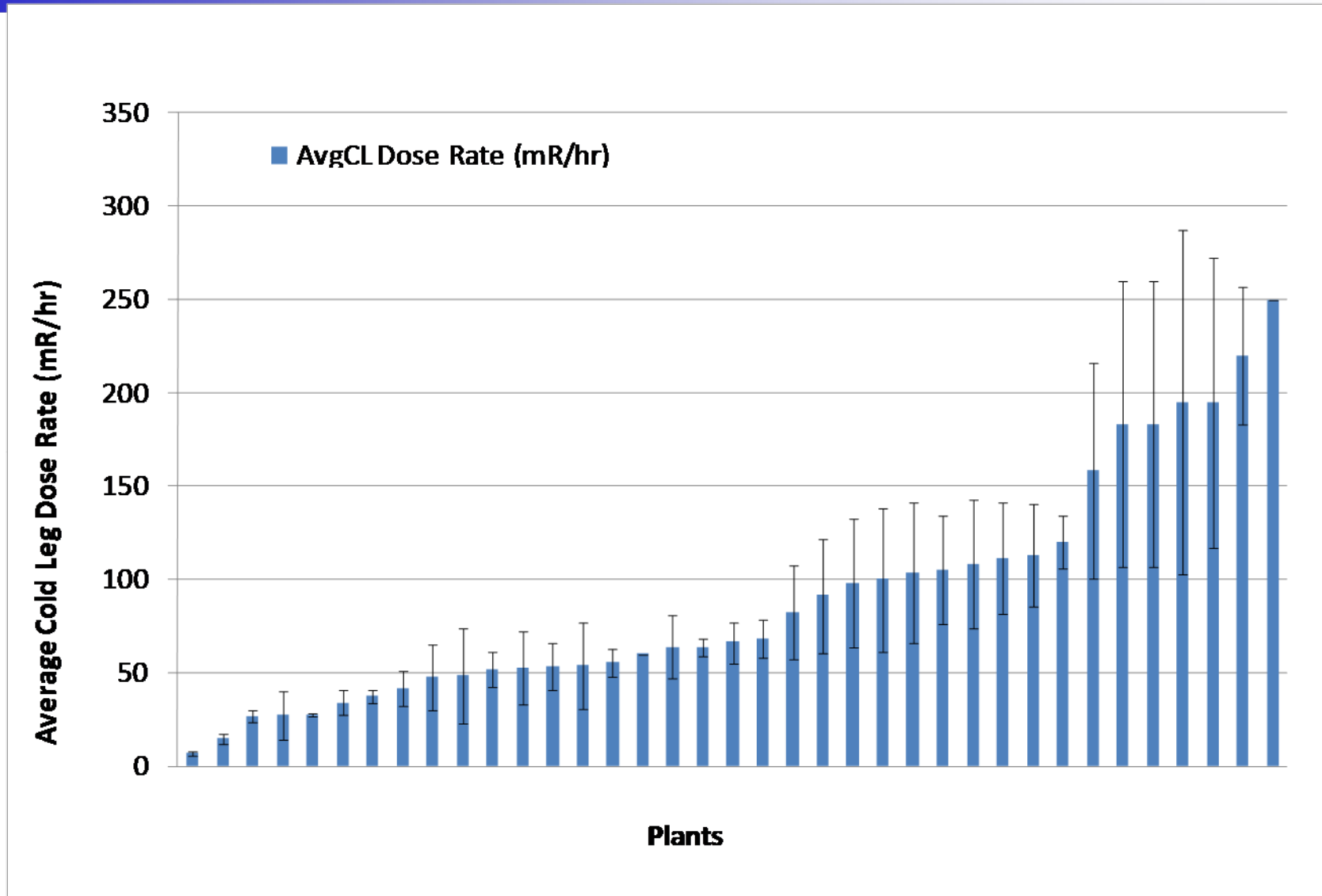
# SRMP: PWR Center Channel Head Hot Leg

## *Most Recent Available Cycle*



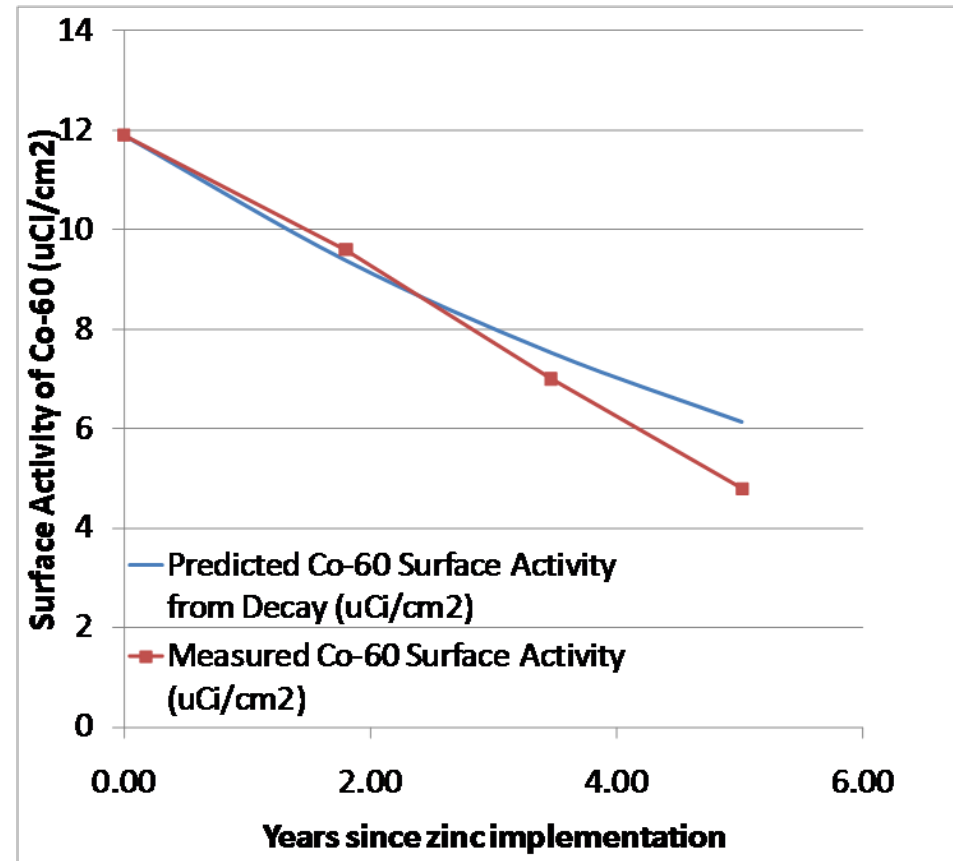
# SRMP: PWR Loop Piping Cold Leg

## *Most Recent Available Cycle*



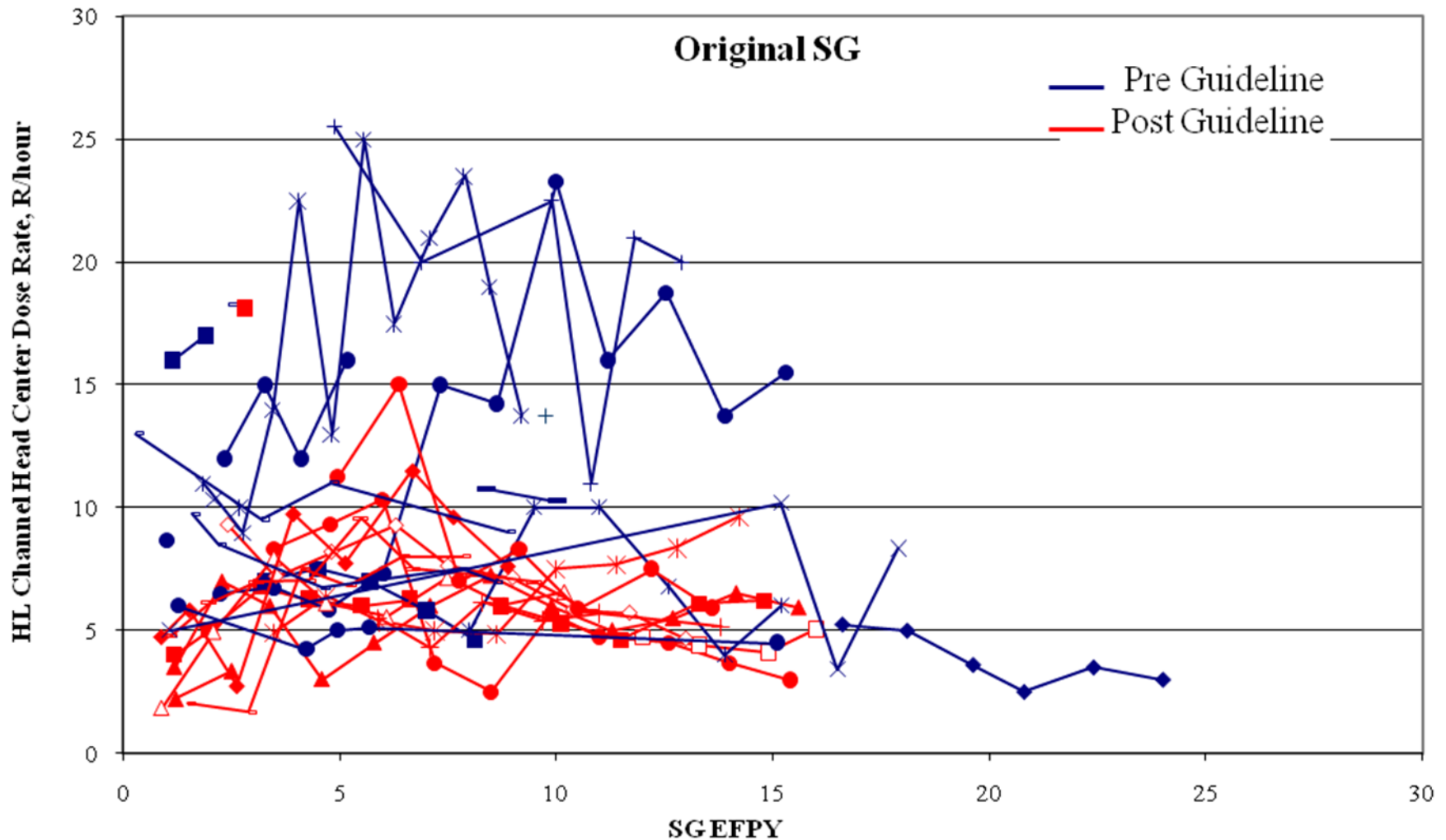
# Zinc Injection Impact on Radiation Fields

- Several examples of positive impact of zinc
- Diablo Canyon 1 is most striking
  - Cobalt-60 decay curve is followed
  - Implies no additional activity deposition



For Diablo Canyon 1, since zinc injection, Cobalt-60 surface loading follows Co-60 decay curve at Diablo Canyon 1

# Impacts of PWR Primary Chemistry Guidelines on Dose Rates



# PWR Summary/Conclusions

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- Zinc appears to be the strongest option to reduce ex-core dose rates
- pH has an impact, but mechanism is under investigation

# RP 2020 Technology Program

## Objective:

- Support of RP2020 Initiative to Improve RP Technology Implementation
- Identify plant tasks for high individual and cumulative dose, use technologies to improve dose performance

## Description:

- Multi-year project focusing task analysis, technology search and development for high individual dose tasks
- Outage reports collected, tasks separated

## Results to Date:

- Reduction of radiation fields allows planning of plant operations to minimize dose rates and reduce crud burst time

## Benefits:

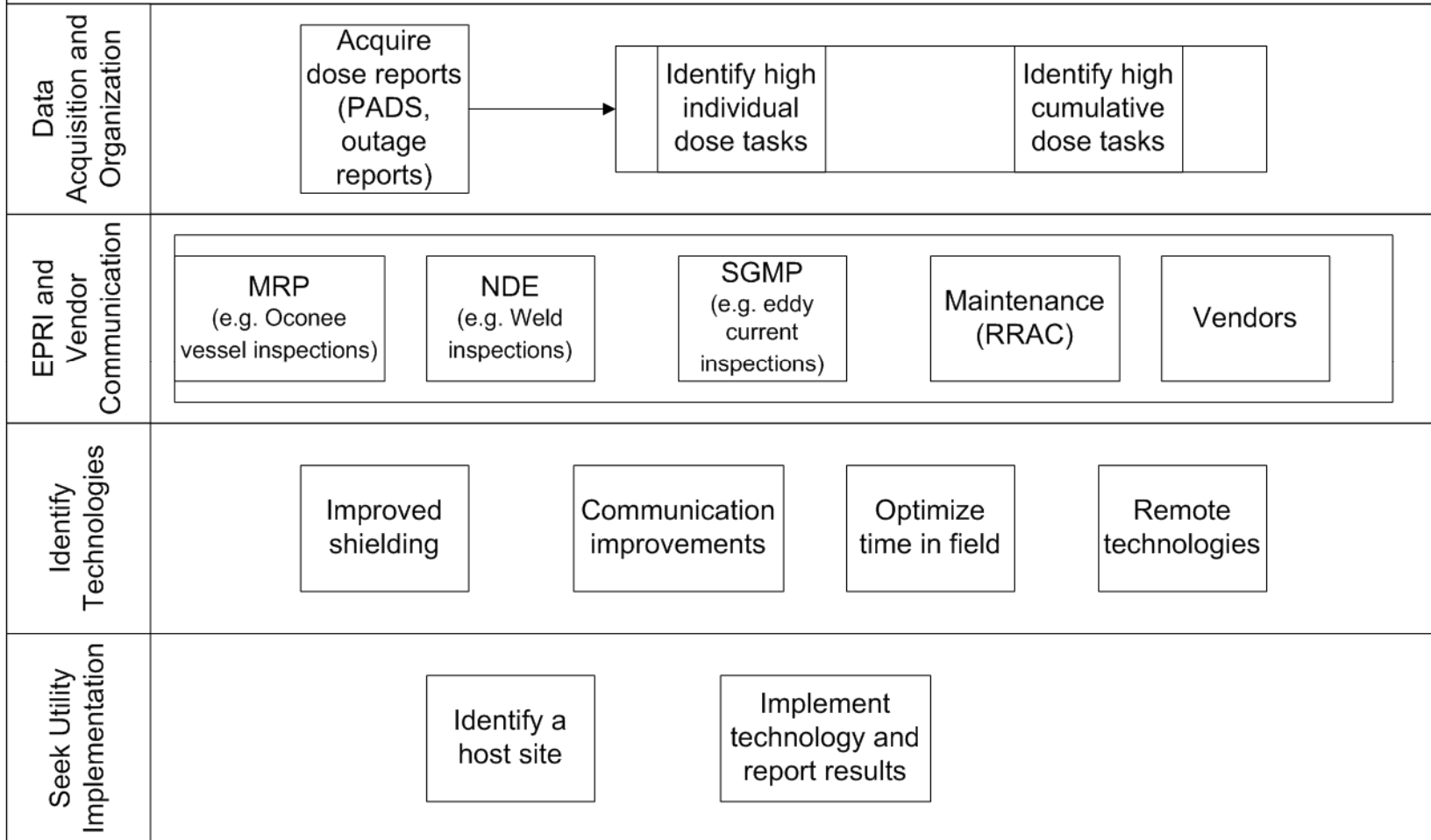
# RP 2020 Technologies

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- Project has strategic and tactical parallel paths
  - Task Dose Benchmarking
  - Technology Identification and Demonstrations

# RP Technology Implementation Roadmap

## Radiation Protection Technologies Project Roadmap

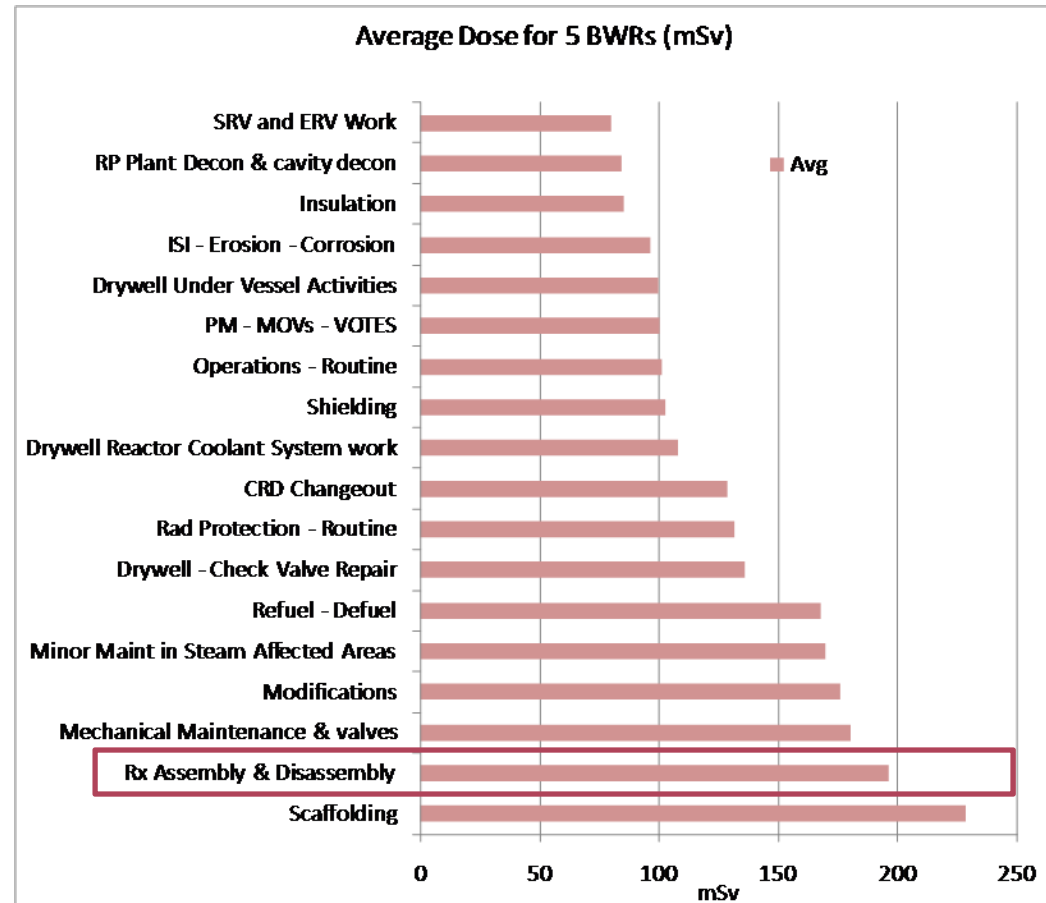




# Technology Implementation Example

## *Identify the Task/Individuals*

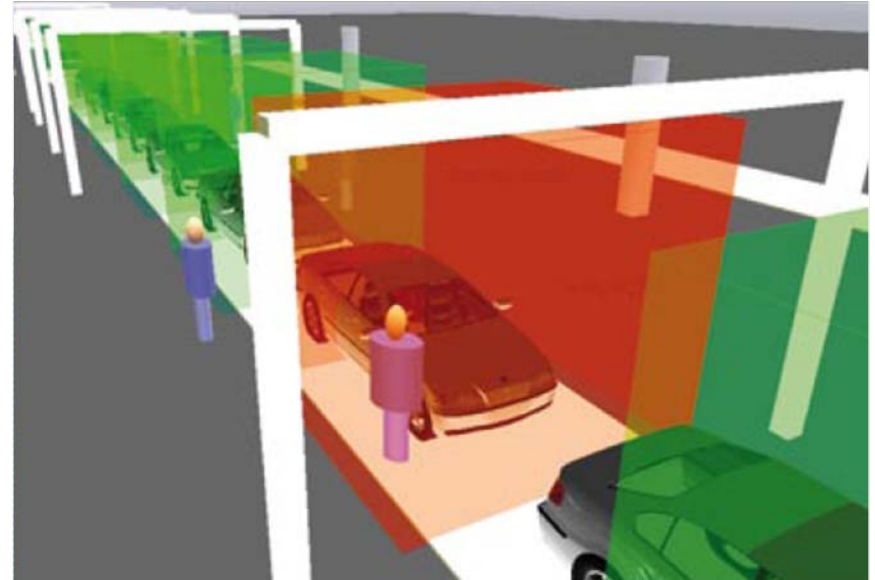
- Reactor Assembly/Disassembly is a high dose task
  - High dose rates
  - Many tasks
    - stud tensioners
    - CRD work
  - Shielding difficulties
- Preliminary results show high effective dose rates
  - cumulative dose/work hours



# Technology Implementation Example

## *Select Candidate Technology*

- Real Time Location Sensors to assess efficiency
  - Reports 3-D position to 3 cm resolution
  - Use it to
    - Determine work flow path
    - Identify unnecessary personnel exposure
    - Identify possible parallel tasks



# Technology Implementation Example

## *Identify Host Site*

- Determine plants that may be interested in demo during outage
  - Communicated with two utilities
- Identify utility/vendor co-funding opportunities

# RP 2020 Technology Implementation

## *Part II: Technology Demonstrations*

- Utilities are already trying new technologies
- Technology list is in development
- For viable candidates, goal is to co-fund demonstration

### Remote Technologies

Remote welding and sanding

Remote monitoring (fiber penetration)

Wireless remote monitoring

Bluetooth communications technology

### Decontamination

Local system decontaminations

Control Rod Drive Flushing Tool

Cavity decontamination with peroxide

Dry vacuuming of vaults

### Shielding

Shielding mats for refuel bridge

Permanent shielding on aux building systems

Moldable shielding

### Novel Technologies

RadBall <sup>TM</sup>

Valve seat replacements

Replacement fiber insulation with reflective insulation

Location Tracking

# RP 2020 Technology Demonstrations

## *Advanced Shielding*

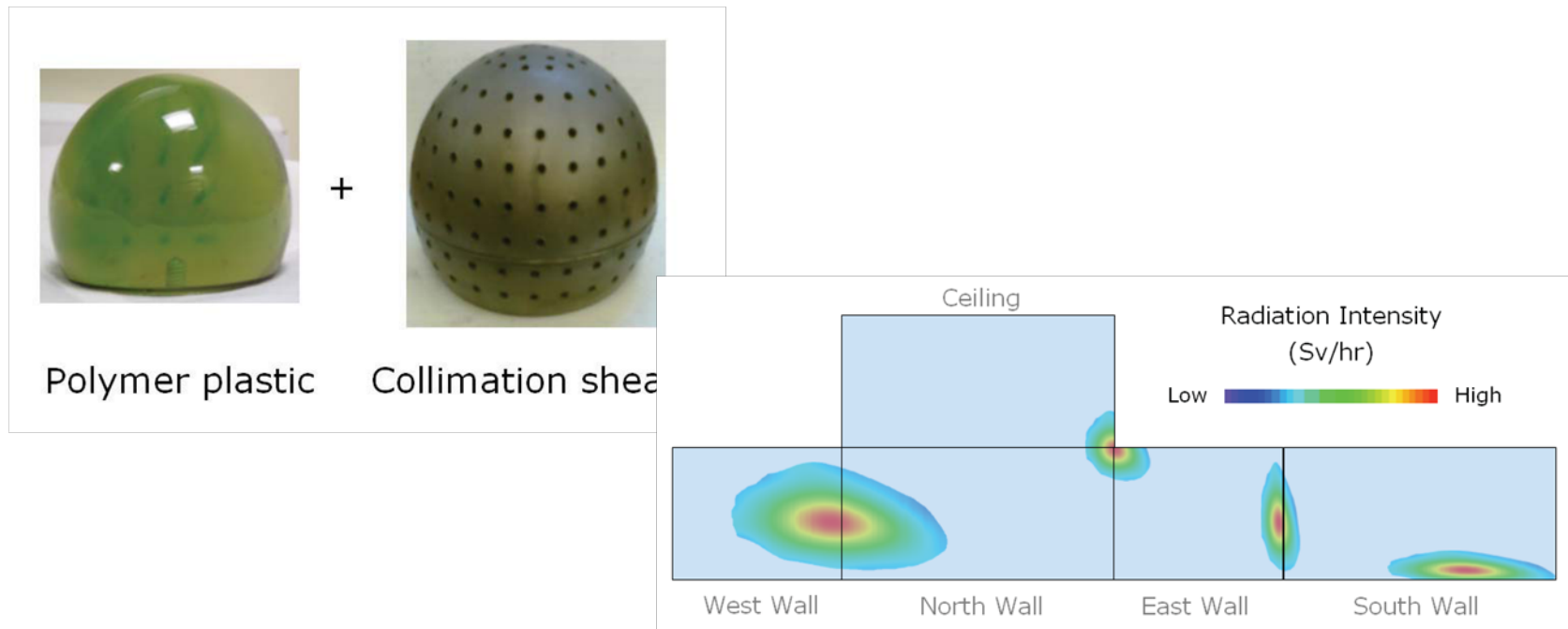
- Customizable shielding for high dose applications
  - E.g Nozzle inspection
- Engineering qualification for permanent installation
  - Physical properties
    - Hardness variation
    - Linear weight
  - Environment limitations
    - Temperature
    - Radiation
- **Seeking utility support for installation**



# RP 2020 Technology Demonstrations

## *RadBall*

- Radiation sensitive polymer based radiation mapping device
- Locate, quantify and characterize radiation



# RP 2020 Technology Demonstrations

## *Frontline Headset-Camera*

- Wireless and wearable communication tool that transmits video images
- On and off-site communication



# Technology Conclusions

- EPRI is actively seeking new technology demonstrations
  - International collaboration is welcome
  - Please contact Dennis Hussey, [dhussey@epri.com](mailto:dhussey@epri.com)