

**First Hour Exam**  
**NEEP-423**  
**Oct. 4, 1999**

**Points**

**Question**

- 16      1.) a) What is the most popular form of fuel for fission reactors today?
- b) What is the coolant and the approximate outlet temperature for the following reactors?
- LWR's
  - Graphite Moderated Reactors
  - LMFBR's
- 20      2.) a.) What is the single largest drawback of unalloyed metallic U fuel for power reactors and why is it a problem?
- b.) Give 3 other reasons why reactor vendors switched from metallic U to other fuels for light water reactors in the 60's and 70's
- 15      3.) Give 3 advantages of IFR's over current LWR's
- 18      4.) a) Why don't we use Stainless Steel cladding in LW power reactors?
- b.) Why don't we use Aluminum cladding in LW power reactors?
- c) Why don't we use Zircalloy cladding in LMFBRs?
- 31      5.) Country X is suspected of making weapons grade  $^{235}\text{U}$  (i. e.,  $>90\%$   $^{235}\text{U}$ ) You are part of an IAEA observation team and your intelligence network tells you that 20 canisters of  $\text{UF}_6$  (each container has 100 kg of natural  $\text{UF}_6$ ) were seen going into the plant. Furthermore the plant has a 3  $\text{MW}_e$  electrical line going into it which is used 24 hr's a day. Exactly 1 year later you see them removing the tails which now contain 0.3%  $^{235}\text{U}$ . Could they have made enough weapons grade  $^{235}\text{U}$  (10 kg of  $>90\%$   $^{235}\text{U}$ ) for a bomb?

Note : • At. Wt. of F is 19.

- They used a gaseous diffusion process which requires 3 MWh/SWU

$$V(x_i) = (2x_i - 1) \ln \frac{x_i}{1 - x_i}$$

$$S = V(x_p) + \frac{W}{P} V(x_w) - \frac{F}{P} V(x_f)$$