

N271. A Record-Breaking SG Replacement

Thirteen months of planning enabled replacement of steam generator at Beznau to break all speed records.

Originally, the plan was to replace only the lower part of the steam generator. However, two studies carried out by Westinghouse and Sulzer, and evaluated by NOK (Nordostschweizerische Kraftwerk), came out strongly in favor of complete replacement with new steam generators, and NOK decided that this was a better option.

Contracts for the replacement were placed in August 1990. A project term was set up at the beginning of 1992. The group carried out 13 months of detailed planning and the plant outage began on 1 April with the replacement itself began on 12 April. Originally it was planned to take 46 days, but the tight scheduling enabled the replacement consortium to reduce time to 44 days. The primary and secondary circuits were handed back to NOK for pressure testing on 26 May.

Taken from, "Picture This: a Record-Breaking Replacement," Nuclear Engineering International, pp. 22-24, Nov. 1993.