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## **Taiwan Report Looks at BWR Control Rod Blade Cracks**

**Taiwanese utility Taipower has identified control rod blade (CRB) cracks at all four operating boiling water reactor units in Taiwan since November 2000, according to a report by the Atomic Energy Council (AEC) in Taipei.**

The AEC said Taipower has replaced multiple cracked CRBs with spare blades and the "root cause is still under investigation by Taipower".

The affected plants are the two BWR units at the Chinshan nuclear power plant and the two BWR units in the Kuosheng nuclear power plant. Visual inspections have been conducted on CRBs during five consecutive outages of the units. After detailed examination, cracks were identified at various locations of CRBs.

Most recent results are from Chinshan-2, where a total of 41 cracked CRBs were found out of the whole core 97 CRBs.

*Source:* AEC

*Editor:* John Shepherd