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Standard Specification for Nuclear-Grade Hafnium Oxide Powder¹

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1. Scope

- 1.1 This specification defines the physical and chemical requirements for hafnium oxide powder intended for fabrication into shapes for use in a nuclear reactor core.
 - 1.2 The material described herein shall be particulate in nature.
 - 1.3The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard.
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2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 ASTM Standards:²
- C 117 Test Method for Materials Finer Than 75-m (No. 200) Sieve in Mineral Aggregates by Washing
- C 371 Test Method for Wire-Cloth Sieve Analysis of Nonplastic Ceramic Powders
- C 859 Terminology Relating to Nuclear Materials
- E 11 Specification for Wire-Cloth Sieves for Testing Purposes Specification for Wire Cloth and Sieves for Testing Purposes
- E 105 Practice for Probability Sampling of Of Materials
- 2.2 ANSI/ASME Standard:
- NQA-1 Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Nuclear Facilities ASME Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Nuclear Facility Applications³
- 2.3 U.S. Government Standard:
- Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Part 50, Energy (10 CFR 50), Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities⁴

3. Terminology

- 3.1 Terms shall be defined in accordance with Terminology C 859 except for the following:
- 3.2 buyer—the organization issuing the purchase order.
- 3.3 hafnium oxide powder—hafnium oxide that contains no hard aggregates larger than 20 mesh (840 µm).
- 3.4 phase transformation—the rearrangement of the atomic ordering of a crystalline lattice as material is cycled through a critical transformation or inversion temperature; the change from one crystalline phase to another may be accompanied by a volume change that could lead to cracks or defects in products fabricated from such materials.⁵
- 3.5 powder lot—a specified quantity of hafnium oxide powder (with stabilizing additive, if applicable) blended together such that samples taken in accordance with the procedures of Section 8 can be considered as representative of the entire quantity.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C-26 on Nuclear Fuel Cycle and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C26.03 on Neutron Absorber Materials Specifications.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For Annual Book of ASTM Standards Vol 04.02-volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 15.02.

³ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, http://www.ansi.org.

⁴ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 12.01.

⁴ Available from U.S. Government Printing Office Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Mail Stop: SDE, Washington, DC 20401, http://www.access.gpo.gov.

⁵ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 14.02.

⁵ Curtis, C. E., Doney, L. M., and Johnson, J. R., "Some Properties of Hafnium Oxide, Hafnium Silicate, Calcium Hafnate, and Hafnium Carbide," *Journal of American Ceramic Society*, Vol 37, 1954, pp. 458–465.

⁶ Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 W. 42nd St., 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

⁶ Brown, L. M., and Mazdiyasni, K. S., "Characterization of Alkoxy-Derived Yttria-Stabilized Hafnia," *Journal of American Ceramic Society*, Vol 53, 1970, pp. 590–594.