



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

November 10, 2011

Mr. Joseph Shea
Acting Vice President, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
LP 4B
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

**SUBJECT: THIRD QUARTER ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR
PLANT UNIT 1 NRC INSEPCION REPORT 05000327/2011011**

Dear Mr. Shea:

As a result of its continuous review of plant performance, which was completed on October 27, 2011 the NRC updated its assessment of Sequoyah Nuclear Plant Unit 1. The NRC's evaluation consisted of a review of performance indicators and inspection results. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of, and its plans for, a future inspection at your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, the mid-cycle letter issued on September 1, 2011.

The NRC's review of Sequoyah Nuclear Plant Unit 1 identified that the Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours performance indicator has crossed the green-to-white threshold. This was due to two trips in the fourth quarter of 2010, one trip in the second quarter of 2011, and one trip in the third quarter of 2011.

The NRC determined the performance at Sequoyah Nuclear Plant Unit 1 to be in the Regulatory Response Column of the Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix beginning fourth quarter of 2011. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct a supplemental inspection in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," to provide assurance that the root causes and contributing causes of risk-significant performance issues are understood, that the extent of cause is identified and that the licensee's corrective actions for risk-significant performance issues are sufficient to address the root and contributing causes and prevent recurrence. The NRC requests that your staff provide notification of your readiness for the NRC to conduct a supplemental inspection to review the actions taken to address the White Performance Indicator.

ML113140370

TVA

2

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Scott Shaeffer at 404-997-4521 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard P. Croteau, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-327
License Nos.: DPR-77

cc: (See page 3)

cc:

J. T. Carlin
Site Vice President
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

P. Simmons
Plant Manager
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

G. M. Cook
Manager
Licensing
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Electronic Mail Distribution

Dan Green
Manager, Corp. Nuclear Licensing - SQN
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

E. J. Vigluicci
Assistant General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

County Mayor
Hamilton County
Hamilton County Courthouse
208 Courthouse
625 Georgia Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Tennessee Department of Environment &
Conservation
Division of Radiological Health
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243

Ann Harris
341 Swing Loop
Rockwood, TN 37854