November 27, 2000

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. J. A. Scalise
    Chief Nuclear Officer and
    Executive Vice President
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN  37402-2801

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT

On November 6, 2000, the NRC staff completed its mid-cycle plant performance assessment of Watts Bar. The mid-cycle review for Watts Bar involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter, and inspection results for the period April 2, 2000 through September 30, 2000. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC’s Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only baseline inspections at your facility through September 30, 2001.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through September 30, 2001. The plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The last six months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC’s “Rules of Practice,” a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made 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/NRC/ADAMS/index.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).
If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Paul Fredrickson at (404) 562-4530 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Paul E. Fredrickson, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 6
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-390, 50-391
License No. NPF-90 and Construction Permit No. CPPR-92

Enclosure: Watts Bar Inspection/Activity Plan

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RidsNrrDipmlipb (e-mail address)
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This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.