



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

April 13, 2000

EA 99-115

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

**SUBJECT: MEETING POSTPONEMENT - PREDECISIONAL ENFORCEMENT
CONFERENCE WATTS BAR - DOCKET NOS. 50-390, 50-391**

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On January 31, 2000, a Confirmation of Predecisional Enforcement Conference letter was forwarded to you. In this correspondence, you were advised of the agency's desire to hold a predecisional enforcement conference to discuss Office of Investigations (OI) Report 2-98-023. This investigation was initiated to determine whether Tennessee Valley Authority willfully withheld or concealed information regarding the condition of ice condenser ice basket screws at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant from 1995 to 1998. A summary of OI's investigative findings and conclusions was provided as an enclosure to the January 31 letter. By letter of March 7, 2000, you were advised of a predecisional enforcement conference that was to be conducted in Region II on April 14, 2000, to discuss the OI findings summarized in the January 31 letter.

On March 27, 2000, we received new, additional information (enclosure) relating to matters at issue in OI Report 2-98-023. We are presently reviewing this new information, and OI has performed a limited, followup investigative interview to assist the staff in its review. In light of these developments, it is unlikely that our review of this matter will be completed prior to April 14, 2000. For these reasons, the predecisional enforcement conference scheduled for April 14, 2000, is postponed. Mr. M. Burzynski of your staff was advised of the postponement during a telephone conversation with Ms. C. Evans, Acting Enforcement Officer, on April 11, 2000.

Upon completion of the staff's review of this new information, you will be advised of proposed, alternative dates for rescheduling the predecisional enforcement conference. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. G. Belisle at (404) 562-4667.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Charles A. Casto, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosure: Correspondence from P. Pace
dated March 27, 2000

cc w/encl:
Karl W. Singer
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

Jack A. Bailey, Vice President
Engineering and Technical Services
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

Richard T. Purcell
Site Vice President
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

N. C. Kazanas, General Manager
Nuclear Assurance
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

Mark J. Burzynski, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

Paul L. Pace, Manager
Licensing and Industry Affairs
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

William R. Lagergren, Plant Manager
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

County Executive
Rhea County Courthouse
375 Church Street, Suite 215
Dayton, TN 37321-1300

County Executive
Meigs County Courthouse
Decatur, TN 37322

Debra Shults, Manager
Technical Services
Division of Radiological Health
Electronic Mail Distribution

> From: Pace, Paul L.
> Sent: Monday, March 27, 2000 8:53 AM
> To: 'gab@nrc.gov'; 'pef@nrc.gov'
> Subject: New Ice Screw information
>
> Al/Paul
>
> As we were preparing the information for the upcoming enforcement
> conference, we interviewed the original lab analyst who told us that in
> 1995 there were never any cracks found in "new screws" (Set B). He
> prepared the attached to show that the original report screw crack in
> Fig. 7 labelled "Set B" was changed in the second report to be correctly
> labelled as Set A since it was one of the screws from the melt tank in the
> plant. The difference in the figures was due to the preparation of the
> metal to show the graining visible in the 2nd report.
>
> Because this information was missed in our LAB report reconciliation PER
> in 1998, I have issued a corrective action document (PER) to correct the
> existing QA records.
>
> Since the citation for the conference is largely about not dealing with
> cracks in the warehouse screws and there actually were none found at that
> time, I didn't want to surprise you with this information at the
> conference.
>
> Paul Pace, Licensing & Industry Affairs
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