

October 19, 2000

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

SUBJECT: SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 99-02, "LABORATORY TESTING OF NUCLEAR-GRADE ACTIVATED CHARCOAL" (TAC NOS. MA5844 AND MA5845)

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On June 3, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 99-02, "Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-Grade Activated Charcoal," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

The purpose of the GL was to:

- (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.
- (2) Request that all addressees determine whether their Technical Specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing. Addressees whose TS do not reference ASTM D3803-1989 should either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the information discussed in the requested actions.
- (3) Alert addressees to the staff's intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions.
- (4) Request that all addressees send the NRC written responses on the implementation of the actions requested in this GL.

Mr. J. A. Scalice

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In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established the following four groups of plants:

- (1) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

In response to GL 99-02, you provided a letter on November 24, 1999, for Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. In a separate letter with the same date, TVA submitted a request for a license amendment (TSC 99-16) to change your TS to provide for testing as described in the GL. The NRC staff has reviewed your response and has concluded that you have provided requested information and a TS change request in accordance with the GL. In addition, you have committed to test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989 until your TS amendment is issued. Therefore, we consider GL 99-02 to be closed for your Sequoyah facility. The requested TS change is being reviewed as a separate, plant-specific action under TAC Nos. MA7386 and MA7387. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-2010

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ronald W. Hernan, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-327 and 50-328

cc: See next page

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>RHernan</u>	<u>BClayton</u>	<u>RCorreia</u>	<u>BMozaferi</u>	<u>GHubbard</u>
<u>DATE</u>	<u>7/26/00</u>	<u>7/26/00</u>	<u>7/26/00</u>	<u>7/26/00</u>	<u>10/11/00</u>

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SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT

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