

August 1, 2001

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

SUBJECT: WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 1 — REACTOR VESSEL FRACTURE  
TOUGHNESS TESTING — SUPPLEMENTAL TESTING OF SURVEILLANCE  
CAPSULE SPECIMEN (TAC NO. MA8635)

Dear Mr. Scalice:

Tennessee Valley Authority's letter of July 10, 2001, requested U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) review and approval of the following reactor vessel fracture toughness testing procedure and plan in accordance with License Condition C.(5) "Reactor Vessel Fracture Toughness Testing":

- Project Technical Plan for Reactor Vessel Surveillance Program Capsule W ½T Specimen Fracture Toughness Testing, Revision 2
- Technical Procedure TP - 177, Automated, Single-Specimen J-integral Fracture Toughness Testing, Revision 9

License Condition C.(5) says, in part, that "Supplemental fracture toughness testing (J-R) will be performed in accordance with a testing procedure that has been previously reviewed and approved by the NRC staff on Surveillance Capsule W specimens . . ." This letter documents the verbal approval we gave you of your testing procedure and plan prior to you performing testing of irradiated specimens on July 18, 2001, at the BWXT Services facility in Lynchburg, VA. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Mark Padovan, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate II  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-390

cc: See next page

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Mark Padovan, Project Manager, Section 2  
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Mr. J. A. Scalice  
Tennessee Valley Authority

cc:

Mr. Karl W. Singer, Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Operations  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
6A Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. John R. Rupert, Vice President (Acting)  
Engineering & Technical  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
6A Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. William R. Lagergren, Site Vice President  
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
P.O. Box 2000  
Spring City, TN 37381

General Counsel  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
ET 10H  
400 West Summit Hill Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37902

Mr. Robert J. Adney, General Manager  
Nuclear Assurance  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
5M Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. Mark J. Burzynski, Manager  
Nuclear Licensing  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
4X Blue Ridge  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

## **WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT**

Mr. Paul L. Pace, Manager  
Licensing and Industry Affairs  
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
P.O. Box 2000  
Spring City, TN 37381

Mr. Larry S. Bryant Manager  
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
P.O. Box 2000  
Spring City, TN 37381

Senior Resident Inspector  
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1260 Nuclear Plant Road  
Spring City, TN 37381

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

County Executive  
Meigs County Courthouse  
Decatur, TN 37322

Mr. Lawrence E. Nanney, Director  
Division of Radiological Health  
Dept. of Environment & Conservation  
Third Floor, L and C Annex  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-1532

Ms. Ann Harris  
305 Pickel Road  
Ten Mile, TN 37880