

October 3, 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: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - LEAD TEST
ASSEMBLIES IN THE BLENDED LOW ENRICHED URANIUM PROGRAM
(TAC NOS. MB2748, MA2749, AND MB2750)

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On September 20, 2001, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff (R. Caruso, M. Chatterton, R. Hernan, and K. Jabbour) held a telephone conversation (telecon) with the staffs of Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) (the licensee) at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) and Framatome ANP Richland, Inc. The telecon was in response to TVA's submittal dated August 17, 2001, the purpose of which was to justify use of blended low enriched uranium (BLEU) in reload quantities at BFN without being preceded by lead test assemblies (LTAs).

The submittal did not request any regulatory action. TVA's staff stated that there is no need for a technical specification change or a license amendment. In addition, they stated that the use of BLEU will be evaluated by the Title 10, *Code of Federal Regulations*, (10 CFR) Section 50.59 process and requires no NRC staff action. Based on the discussion, the NRC staff concluded that since (1) no review of the submittal was requested and (2) the licensee is using the 10 CFR 50.59 process to justify batch use of BLEU, no NRC staff effort should be expended on evaluation or review of the submittal or the subject. The staff reminded the licensee that, as always, their 10 CFR 50.59 evaluation is subject to audit.

This completes the staff's actions regarding TAC Nos. MB2748, MB2749, and MB2750. Therefore, this memorandum closes-out the above three TACs.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Kahtan N. Jabbour, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260
and 50-296

cc: See next page

October 3, 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: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - LEAD TEST
ASSEMBLIES IN THE BLENDED LOW ENRICHED URANIUM PROGRAM
(TAC NOS. MB2748, MA2749, AND MB2750)

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On September 20, 2001, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff (R. Caruso, M. Chatterton, R. Hernan, and K. Jabbour) held a telephone conversation (telecon) with the staffs of Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) (the licensee) at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) and Framatome ANP Richland, Inc. The telecon was in response to TVA's submittal dated August 17, 2001, the purpose of which was to justify use of blended low enriched uranium (BLEU) in reload quantities at BFN without being preceded by lead test assemblies (LTAs).

The submittal did not request any regulatory action. TVA's staff stated that there is no need for a technical specification change or a license amendment. In addition, they stated that the use of BLEU will be evaluated by the Title 10, *Code of Federal Regulations*, (10 CFR) Section 50.59 process and requires no NRC staff action. Based on the discussion, the NRC staff concluded that since (1) no review of the submittal was requested and (2) the licensee is using the 10 CFR 50.59 process to justify batch use of BLEU, no NRC staff effort should be expended on evaluation or review of the submittal or the subject. The staff reminded the licensee that, as always, their 10 CFR 50.59 evaluation is subject to audit.

This completes the staff's actions regarding TAC Nos. MB2748, MB2749, and MB2750. Therefore, this memorandum closes-out the above three TACs.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kahtan N. Jabbour, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260
and 50-296

cc: See next page

Distribution:

PUBLIC	BClayton (hard copy)	RidsAcrsAcnwMailCenter
PDII-2 Reading	KJabbour (hard copy)	PFredrickson, RidsRgn2MailCenter
RCorreia	RidsOgcRp	RCaruso

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML012770211

OFFICE	PM:PDII-2	LA:PDII-2	SC:SRXB	SC:PDII-2
NAME	KJabbour:mw	BClayton	RCaruso	RCorreia
DATE	10/03/01	10/02/2001	10/03/2001	10/03/2001

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Mr. J. A. Scalice
Tennessee Valley Authority

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

cc:

Mr. Karl W. Singer, Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A 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

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

Mr. Timothy E. Abney, Manager
Licensing and Industry Affairs
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35609

Mr. Ashok S. Bhatnagar, Site Vice President
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35609

Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
10833 Shaw Road
Athens, AL 35611

General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 11A
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

State Health Officer
Alabama Dept. of Public Health
RSA Tower - Administration
Suite 1552
P.O. Box 303017
Montgomery, AL 36130-3017

Mr. Robert J. Adney, General Manager
Nuclear Assurance
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Chairman
Limestone County Commission
310 West Washington Street
Athens, AL 35611

Mr. Robert G. Jones, Plant Manager
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35609