



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

April 11, 1984

Docket No. 50-327

Mr. H. G. Parris  
Manager of Power  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
500A Chestnut Street, Tower II  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Subject: Exemption from Scheduler Requirements of 10 CFR 50.49(g)  
for Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Unit 1

By letters dated November 14, 1983, March 23 and April 3, 1984, you requested a scheduler exemption to the 10 CFR 50.49(g) requirements for compliance with the dates for final environmental qualification of electrical equipment within the scope of the rule. The staff has evaluated your request and has granted an exemption from the aforementioned scheduler requirement as described in the enclosed exemption.

A copy of the exemption is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

*Elinor G. Adensam*

Elinor G. Adensam, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 4  
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:  
Exemption

cc w/encl:  
See next page

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SEQUOYAH

Mr. H. G. Parris  
Manager of Power  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
500A Chestnut Street, Tower II  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

cc: Herbert S. Sanger, Jr., Esq.  
General Counsel  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
400 Commerce Avenue  
E 11B 33  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. H. N. Culver  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
400 Commerce Avenue, 249A HBB  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. Bob Faas  
Westinghouse Electric Corp.  
P.O. Box 355  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230

Mr. Jerry Wills  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
400 Chestnut Street, Tower II  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Mr. Donald L. Williams, Jr.  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
400 Commerce Avenue, W10C131C  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Resident Inspector/Sequoyah NPS  
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission  
2600 Igou Ferry Road  
Soddy Daisy, Tennessee 37379

Director, Office of Urban  
& Federal Affairs  
108 Parkway Towers  
404 James Robertson Way  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

Attorney General  
Supreme Court Building  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency  
ATTN: EIS Coordinator  
345 Courtland Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Honorable Don Moore, Jr.  
County Judge  
Hamilton County Courthouse  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Regional Administrator  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Michael H. Mobley, Director  
Division of Radiological Health  
T.E.R.R.A. Building  
150 9th Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Tennessee Valley Authority

(Sequoyah Nuclear Plant,  
Unit 1)

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Docket No. 50-327

EXEMPTION FROM SCHEDULAR REQUIREMENTS OF  
10 CFR 50.49(g)

I

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA/the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-77 which authorizes TVA to operate the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Unit 1 at power levels not in excess of 3411 megawatts thermal. The facility is a pressurized water reactor located at the licensee's site in Hamilton County, Tennessee. The license provides, among other things, that it is subject to all Rules, Regulations, and Orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

II

On February 22, 1983, the environmental qualification rule for electrical equipment important to safety for nuclear power plants, 10 CFR 50.49, became effective. Subsection (g) of 50.49 requires that each holder of an operating license issued prior to February 22, 1983, shall by May 20, 1983, identify the electrical equipment important to safety within the scope of the rule already qualified and submit a schedule for either the qualification or the replacement of remaining electrical equipment subject to the rule. This schedule must establish a goal of final environmental qualification of the electrical equipment by the end of the second refueling outage after March 31, 1982, or by

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March 31, 1985, whichever is earlier. The rule also provides that the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation may grant extensions of this deadline to a date no later than November 30, 1985, for specific pieces of equipment if requests are filed on a timely basis and demonstrate good cause for such an extension, such as procurement lead time, task complications, and installation problems.

### III

By letters dated November 14, 1983, March 23, and April 3, 1984, the licensee requested an extension of the dates specified in 10 CFR 50.49(g). The Sequoyah Unit 1 began the second refueling outage on February 20, 1984, and will end on April 12, 1984. The licensee has identified specific pieces of equipment which will not be replaced or relocated by the end of the second refueling cycle. The licensee stated that procurement lead time and problems associated with the test program for qualifying the equipment are the principal reasons for the delay.

We have reviewed the licensee submittals and find that the licensee's reasons are appropriate. The licensee identified the problems associated with the listed components not meeting the scheduled commitment. Some delays were encountered because of deficiencies in vendor Quality Assurance programs. In some instances, redesign of components was necessary to qualify equipment for the environment after the equipment could not be qualified by test and analysis. Relocation of equipment was initiated wherever feasible. Although emergency procurement was initiated in many cases, it was not wholly successful in that equipment was not received in time for replacement during

the second refueling outage for Unit 1. Those components that should be modified during nonoutage periods will be scheduled as early as practical. However, many modifications and replacements must be scheduled during an outage of sufficient duration. Therefore, good cause for a schedular extension of the rule exists based on procurement lead time, extensive testing of a large number of replacement components, and the need for a significant plant outage to install many of the new components.

#### IV

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, an exemption is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest. Therefore, the Commission hereby approves the following exemption:

Exemption is granted from the schedular requirement of Section 50.49(g) to extend the required date of final environmental qualification of electrical equipment identified in Licensee Letter of March 23, 1984, to the end of the Cycle 3 refueling outage, but in any event no later than November 30, 1985.

The Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will not result in any significant environmental impact and that, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.5(d)(4), an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with this action.

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "HR Denton". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation