

September 13, 1994

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
President, TVA Nuclear and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

SUBJECT: SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF
ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS (TAC NOS. M90318 AND M90319)

The Commission has forwarded the enclosed "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for Hearing" to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

This notice relates to your application dated September 8, 1994, to amend the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 Technical Specifications to incorporate a clarification regarding the evaluation of steam generator tube defects. The amendment would separate the portion of the steam generator tubing from the end of the tube up to the start of the tube-to-tubesheet weld from the remainder of the tube for the purposes of sample selection and repair when defects are found in this section of a steam generator tube.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

David E. LaBarge, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate II-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-327 and 328

Enclosure: Notice of Consideration

cc w/enclosure: See next page

Distribution

Docket File	PUBLIC	SQL Reading	D. Hagan, AEOD/IRB
S. Varga	G. Lainas	ACRS (10)	M. Lesser, RII
OPA	OC/LFDCB	B. Boger, RII	W. Holland
OGC			

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\SQL\90318.SHO

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure
"E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy

OFFICE	PDII-4/LA <i>BC</i> E	PDII-4/PM <i>DL</i> E	PDII-4/D <i>FH</i> E			
NAME	BClayton	DLaBarge	FHebdon <i>FOR PSH</i>			
DATE	9 / 13 / 94	9 / 13 / 94	9 / 13 / 94			

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

9409200029 940913
PDR ADDCK 05000327
P PDR

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

190071

DF01

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
Tennessee Valley Authority

cc:

Mr. Craven Crowell, Chairman
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 12A
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

Mr. W. H. Kennoy, Director
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 12A
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

Mr. Johnny H. Hayes, Director
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 12A
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

Mr. O. J. Zeringue, Sr. Vice President
Nuclear Operations
Tennessee Valley Authority
3B Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Dr. Mark O. Medford, Vice President
Engineering & Technical Services
Tennessee Valley Authority
3B Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. D. E. Nunn, Vice President
New Plant Completion
Tennessee Valley Authority
3B Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. K. P. Powers, Site Vice President
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Soddy, Daisy, TN 37379

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

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT

Mr. Roger W. Huston, Manager
Nuclear Licensing and
Regulatory Affairs
Tennessee Valley Authority
4G Blue Ridge
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. Ralph H. Shell
Site Licensing Manager
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

TVA Representative
Tennessee Valley Authority
11921 Rockville Pike
Suite 402
Rockville, MD 20852

Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW., Suite 2900
Atlanta, GA 30323

Mr. William E. Holland
Senior Resident Inspector
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
2600 Igou Ferry Road
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

Mr. Michael H. Mobley, Director
Division of Radiological Health
3rd Floor, L and C Annex
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243-1532

County Judge
Hamilton County Courthouse
Chattanooga, TN 37402

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-327 AND 50-328

NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE, PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-77 and DPR-79 issued to the Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) for operation of the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, located in Soddy Daisy, Tennessee.

The proposed amendments, submitted by the licensee's letter dated September 8, 1994, would incorporate a clarification to separate the portion of the steam generator tubing from the end of the tube up to the start of the tube-to-tubesheet weld from the remainder of the tube for the purposes of sample selection and repair when defects are found in this section of a steam generator tube.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendments would not (1) involve a significant

ENCLOSURE

9409200032 940913
PDR ADOCK 05000327
P PDR

increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

TVA has evaluated the proposed technical specification (TS) change and has determined that it does not represent a significant hazards consideration based on criteria established in 10 CFR 50.92(c). Operation of Sequoyah Nuclear Plant (SQN) in accordance with the proposed amendment will not:

1. Involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

This change will clarify the requirements for indications found in the region of the steam generator (S/G) tube, which protrudes below the tubesheet. This region of the tube does not affect the structural integrity of the reactor coolant system (RCS) pressure boundary, since it is not part of the pressure boundary. This revision will exempt this portion of the tube from being considered under the result and action required sections of Table 4.4-2 in SQN's TS. Therefore, indications in this region will not require repairs and will not be used for the purpose of expanding the sample of tubes to be inspected under the requirements of the TS.

The condition described in this evaluation results in tube integrity considerations commensurate with Regulatory Guide 1.121 criteria both analytically and empirically. If the indications are hypothetically considered as cracks, the Row 1 tube end indications neither adversely affect S/G tube integrity or any other component, nor does the presence of the indications alter the function of the S/G or any other component. Continuing the hypothetical scenario, even if the crack propagated beyond the weld, the only consequence of an accident that could be caused by plant operation or by the occurrence of a faulted condition event with the tube end indications, would be negligible leakage from the primary to secondary system. Such leakage is expected to be insignificant at both normal and faulted conditions. Therefore, plant operation with the tube end indications present in the Row 1 tubes does not increase the probability of an analyzed accident such as a S/G tube rupture event,

2. Create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any previously analyzed.

Any hypothetical accident as a result of plant operation with the Row 1 tube end indications would be bounded by the consequences of a postulated S/G tube rupture. Therefore, this change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any previously analyzed.

3. Involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The locations of the axial indications observed are below the tube-to-tubesheet weld. Consequently, it is concluded that the axial indications do not affect the structural and leakage integrity of the primary pressure boundary. Should the indications be single or multiple axial cracks on the tube ends, the effect of crack propagation was evaluated. Tube burst is precluded for cracks within the tubesheet by the constraint provided by the tubesheet. Therefore, crack lengths do not need to be limited by burst considerations and operating leakage limits are not required to detect crack lengths associated with the tube burst. However, primary to secondary leakage must be shown to remain within acceptable limits during all plant conditions. Leak-rate testing shows that such leakage would be negligible during all plant conditions. Since the pressure boundary integrity, acceptable leak rate, and function of the S/G are not affected by the presence of the tube end indications, the margin of safety is not reduced.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would

result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and should cite the publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room 6D22, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By October 19, 1994, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR

with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555 and at the local public document room located at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Library, 1101 Broad Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order. As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above. Not later

than 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last 10 days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 248-5100 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number N1023 and the following message addressed to Mr. Frederick J. Hebdon: petitioner's name and telephone number, date petition was mailed, plant name, and publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to General Council, Tennessee Valley Authority, ET 11H, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or

the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated September 8, 1994, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555 and at the local public document room located at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Library, 1101 Broad Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of September 1994.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



David E. LaBarge, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate II-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation