

DEC 28 1977

DISTRIBUTION
Dockets
NRD PDRs
LOCAL PDR
ORB#1 Reading
VSTello
KRGoller
ASchwencer
TVWambach
SMSheppard
OELD
OI&E(3)
BJones
BScharf(2)
DEisenhut
CMiles
ACRS(16)
TBAbernathy

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

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. Godwin Williams, Jr.
Manager of Power
818 Power Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37201

Gentlemen:

The Commission has filed the enclosed "Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating Licenses" with the Office of the Federal Register for publication. This notice relates to your requests dated December 2 and 20, 1977, for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3 which would increase the spent fuel storage capacity.

Sincerely,

151

A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc w/encl:
See next page

JRBuchanan
CWilliam, ASLB(4)
JBishop, OELD

OFFICE	DORORB#1	DORORB#1				
SURNAME	TVWambach:1b	ASchwencer				
DATE	12/21/77	12/20/77				



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

December 28, 1977

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

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. Godwin Williams, Jr.
Manager of Power
818 Power Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37201

Gentlemen:

The Commission has filed the enclosed "Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating Licenses" with the Office of the Federal Register for publication. This notice relates to your requests dated December 2 and 20, 1977, for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3 which would increase the spent fuel storage capacity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Schwencer".

A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc w/encl:
See next page

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

U. S. Environmental Protection
Agency
Region IV Office
ATTN: EIS COORDINATOR
345 Courtland Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Mr. D. McCloud
Tennessee Valley Authority
303 Power Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Mr. William E. Garner
Route 4, Box 354
Scottsboro, Alabama 35768

Athens Public Library
South and Forrest
Athens, Alabama 35611

Mr. Charles R. Christopher
Chairman, Limestone County Commission
Post Office Box 188
Athens, Alabama 35611

Ira L. Myers, M.D.
State Health Officer
State Department of Public Health
State Office Building
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Mr. C. S. Walker
Tennessee Valley Authority
400 Commerce Avenue
W 9D199 C
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Chief, Energy Systems
Analyses Branch (AW-459)
Office of Radiation Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Room 645, East Tower
401 M Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20460

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NOS. 50-259, 50-260 & 50-296

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS TO
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSES

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52 and DPR-68, issued to Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee), for operation of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3, located in Limestone County, Alabama.

The amendment would increase the spent fuel storage capacity at Browns Ferry.

By February 8, 1978, the licensee may file a request for a hearing and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a request for a hearing in the form of a petition for leave to intervene with respect to the issuance of the amendments to the subject facility operating licenses. Petitions for leave to intervene must be filed under oath or affirmation in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.714 of 10 CFR Part 2 of the Commission's regulations. A petition for leave to intervene must set forth the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, and the petitioner's contentions with respect to the proposed licensing action. Such petitions must be filed in accordance with the provisions of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice and

Section 2.714, and must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Section, by the above date. A copy of the petition and/or request for a hearing should be sent to the Executive Legal Director, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, and to H. S. Sanger, Jr., Esquire, General Counsel, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 Commerce Avenue, E 11B 33 C, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, attorney for the licensee.

A petition for leave to intervene must be accompanied by a supporting affidavit which identifies the specific aspect or aspects of the proceeding as to which intervention is desired and specifies with particularity the facts on which the petitioner relies as to both his interest and his contentions with regard to each aspect on which intervention is requested. Petitions stating contentions relating only to matters outside the Commission's jurisdiction will be denied.

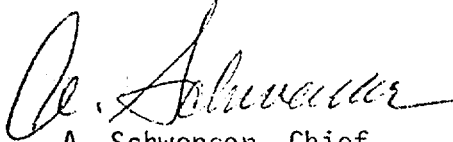
All petitions will be acted upon by the Commission or licensing board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel. Timely petitions will be considered to determine whether a hearing should be noticed or another appropriate order issued regarding the disposition of the petitions.

In the event that a hearing is held and a person is permitted to intervene, he becomes a party to the proceeding and has a right to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing. For example, he may present evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's requests dated December 2 and 20, 1977, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW., Washington, D.C. and at the Athens Public Library, South and Forrest, Athens, Alabama 35611.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 28th day December 1977.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATIONNOTICING OF PROPOSED LICENSING AMENDMENT

LICENSEE: Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

REQUEST FOR: Increase in spent fuel pool storage capacity at Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant

REQUEST DATE: ~~December 2 and 20, 1977~~

PROPOSED ACTION: Pre-notice Recommended
 Post-notice Recommended
 Determination delayed pending completion of Safety Evaluation

- BASIS FOR DECISION:
1. The proposed modification to the spent fuel storage of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant would increase its storage capacity from 1080 to 3471 fuel assemblies for each of the three pools. To do this, the center-to-center spacing will be decreased to 6.5 inches. This closer spacing is accomplished by the use of BORAL (neutron poison). The multiplication would be increased from 0.90 to 0.95, which is a decrease in safety margin to criticality.
 2. The proposal involves an increase in the amount and age of spent fuel to be stored at the site, and consequently, some increase in the long lived radioactive isotopes in the spent fuel pool, but there would be a negligible increase in the short-lived isotopes contained in that stored fuel.
 3. An increase in the number and age of stored fuel assemblies would result in a small additional decay heat load on the spent fuel cooling system. This increase would result in a small reduced margin in the ability of the cooling system to maintain the fuel pool water temperature at acceptable levels.
 4. All other proposals to increase spent fuel pool storage capacity have been pre-noticed for similar reasons.
 5. Based on the above reasons a significant hazards consideration may be involved, therefore a pre-notice is recommended.

- 2 -

- Proposed NEPA Action:
- EIS Required
 - Negative Declaration (ND) and Environmental Impact Appraisal (EIA) Required
 - No EIS, ND or EIA Required
 - Determination delayed pending completion of EIA

BASIS FOR DECISION:

On September 16, 1975, the Commission announced (40 FR 42801) its intent to prepare a generic environmental impact statement on handling and storage of spent fuel from light water power reactors. In this notice, the Commission also announced its conclusion that it would not be in the public interest to defer licensing actions intended to ameliorate a possible shortage of spent fuel storage capacity pending completion of the generic environmental impact statement. The Commission directed that in the consideration of any such proposed licensing action, five specific factors should be applied, balanced, and weighed in the context of the required environmental statement or appraisal.

Since the proposed action: (1) does not significantly increase the types or amounts of effluents, (2) does not increase the authorized power level, and (3) is not expected to result in any significant increase in environmental impact an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. The five specific factors that the Commission directed to be considered in any proposed plant-specific license amendment will be reviewed in an environmental impact appraisal (EIA). Therefore, the preparation of an EIA and negative declaration (ND) regarding the proposed action is appropriate.

CONCURRENCES:

DATE:

1. T. V. Wambach JVW 12/15/77
2. A. Schwencer A.S 12/21/77
3. K. R. Goller KRG 12/22
4. OELD A. Mitchell 12/23