

AUG 30 1977

Docket No. 50-259

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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 License" with the Office of the Federal Register for publication. This notice relates to your request dated July 8, 1977, for approval to amend License No. DPR-33 for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 1.

The amendment would authorize operation of Browns Ferry Unit 1 in Cycle 2 after refueling with 168 fuel assemblies, each containing an 8 X 8 array of fuel rods.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure:
Notice

cc w/encl:
See next page

OFFICE >	DOR:ORB#1 <i>Wambach</i>	OELD <i>A. Schwencer</i>	DOR:ORB#1 <i>A. Schwencer</i>		
SURNAME >	Wambach	A. Schwencer	A. Schwencer		
DATE >	8/24/77	8/30/77	8/30/77		

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

August 30, 1977

Docket No. 50-259

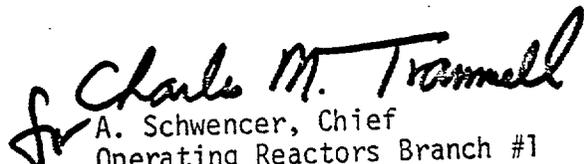
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A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Notice

cc w/encl:
See next page

cc: H. S. Sanger, Jr. , Esquire
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Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

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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
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W 9D199 C
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Chief, Energy Systems
Analyses Branch (AW-459)
Office of Radiation Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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Washington, D.C. 20460

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

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-259

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT
TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-33, issued to Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee), for operation of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 1 (the facility) located in Limestone County, Alabama.

The amendment would authorize operation of Browns Ferry Unit 1 in Cycle 2 after refueling with 168 fuel assemblies, each containing an 8 X 8 array of fuel rods. The balance of the core consists of the 596 fuel assemblies, each containing a 7 X 7 array of fuel rods, which will remain in the core from Cycle 1 operation. The proposed amendment would also change the Technical Specifications for the facility to (1) increase the safety limit for minimum critical power ratio (MCPR) from 1.05 to 1.06, (2) add the exposure dependent operating limits for MCPR for both 8 X 8 and 7 X 7 fuel and the linear heat generation rate (LHGR) limits for 8 X 8 fuel, and (3) reduce the limit on average scram insertion time of all operable control rods from 5.0 seconds to 3.5 seconds and of the three fastest of the four control rods in a two-by-two array from 5.3 seconds to 3.8 seconds.

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

By October 17, 1977, 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 amendment to the subject facility operating license. 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 proceedings, 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 3 C, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 the 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 application for amendment dated July 8, 1977, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the Athens Public Library, South and Forrest, Athens, Alabama 35611.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 30th day of August 1977-

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Charles M. Trammell

Charles M. Trammell, Acting Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION

NOTICING OF PROPOSED LICENSING AMENDMENT

LICENSEE: Tennessee Valley Authority

REQUEST FOR: Technical Specifications for Cycle 2 operation which (1) increase the safety limit for MCPR from 1.05 to 1.06, (2) add exposure dependent operating limits for MCPR for both 7X7 and 8X8 fuel and for LHGR for 8X8 fuel and (3) reduce the required time for completion of scram.

REQUEST DATE: July 8, 1977

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

BASIS FOR DECISION: This concerns the first reload of 8X8 fuel in Browns Ferry 1 which was evaluated and licensed with 7X7 fuel.

- Item (1) Increasing the safety limit MCPR could result in less of a safety margin between limiting safety system settings and the safety limit ,
- (2) Increasing the operating limits on MCPR and making them exposure dependent must be evaluated to determine that the safety margin has not been reduced, and
- (3) Decreasing the time for scram has the potential for reducing a safety margin and must be evaluated accordingly.

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

BASIS FOR DECISION: No change in effluent types or amounts nor change in power level.

CONCURRENCES:

DATE:

1. T. Wambach As for 8/26/77
2. A. Schwencer A. A. 8/26/77
3. K. R. Goller KRG 8/27/77
4. OELD A. M. J. Kelly 8/30/77