

November 25, 1981



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

Dear Mr. Parris:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Modification of January 13, 1981 Order for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit 1. The staff currently has under review a generic proposal to extend the completion dates for the Mark 1 containment long term program modifications for all affected licensees. In light of the above, it has been determined that there is good cause for modifying the Order and granting an extension of 45 days from the effective date of the enclosed Order.

In granting this extension the staff recognizes that significant progress has been made by the licensee in meeting the Order requirements. Browns Ferry Unit 1 was shutdown for six months (April 11 to October 1, 1981) primarily for torus modifications. During that outage most of the major modifications, which comprises a significant portion of the total program effort were completed. This has resulted in a substantial improvement in the margins of safety of the containment systems. The delays in the program as stated in your May 22, 1981 letter are primarily related to torus and torus attached piping analyses, equipment delivery, outage scheduling at a three unit site and personnel safety concerns associated with prolonged overtime during extended outages.

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

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

T. A. Ippolito

Thomas A. Ippolito, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

Distribution:	Docket File	NRC PDR	Local PDR	ORB#2 Rdg	D. Eisenhut
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OELD CONCURRED BY TELEPHONE ON THIS ORDER REVISION ON 11/25/81 - R. CYR & J. LIEBERMAN

OFFICE	ORB#2	ORB#2	ORB#2	ORB#2	DL:AD:OR	DL:DEPDIR	DL:DIR	OELD
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DATE	11/17/81	11/25/81	11/25/81	11/25/81	11/25/81	11/25/81	11/25/81	11/17/81

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P PDR

Mr. Hugh G. Parris

cc:

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY)
(Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant,) Docket No. 50-259
Unit 1))
)

MODIFICATION OF JANUARY 13, 1981 ORDER

I.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-33 which authorizes the operation of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit 1 at steady state reactor power levels not in excess of 3293 megawatts thermal rated power. The facility consists of a boiling water reactor located at the licensee's site in Limestone County, Alabama.

II.

On January 13, 1981 the Commission issued an Order modifying the license requiring: 1) the licensee to promptly assess the suppression pool hydrodynamic loads in accordance with NEDO-24583-1 and the Acceptance Criteria contained in Appendix A to NUREG-0661; and 2) design and install any plant modifications needed to assure that the facility conforms to the Acceptance Criteria contained in Appendix A to NUREG-0661. The Order, published in the Federal Register on January 28, 1981 (46 FR 9318) required installation of any plant modifications

needed to provide compliance with the Acceptance Criteria in Appendix A to NUREG-0661 be completed not later than October 31, 1981, or, if the plant is shutdown on that date, before the resumption of power thereafter. In addition, the Order provided for extending, up to that same date, an exemption from General Design Criteria 50 of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50.

III.

On October 31, 1979, the staff issued an initial version of its acceptance criteria to the affected licensees. These criteria were subsequently revised in February 1980 to reflect acceptable alternative assessment techniques which would enhance the implementation of this program. Throughout the development of these acceptance criteria, the staff has worked closely with the Mark I Owners Group in order to encourage partial plant-unique assessments where necessary and modifications to be undertaken.

Since the development of these acceptance criteria significant progress has been made by the licensee in meeting the Order requirements. However, by letter May 22, 1981 the licensee stated that unforeseen difficulties and delays have been encountered primarily related to torus and torus attached piping analyses, equipment delivery, outage scheduling at a three unit site, and personnel safety concerns associated with prolonged overtime during extended outages that has necessitated revision of the Order date(s).

Browns Ferry Unit 1 was shutdown for six months (April 11 to October 1, 1981) primarily for torus modifications. During that outage most of the major modifications, which are those associated with the torus, vent system, internal structures and safety relief valve piping were completed. These modifications comprise a significant portion of the total program effort. Consequently substantial improvements have already been made in the margins of safety of the containment systems. The major delays in program completion are primarily associated with the torus attached piping modifications.

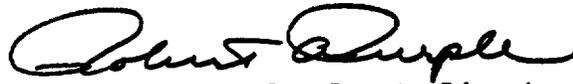
The staff currently has under review a generic proposal to extend the completion dates for the Mark I containment long term program modifications for all affected licensees. In light of the above, the Director has determined that there is good cause for modifying the Order and granting an extension of 45 days from the date of this Order .

IV.

Accordingly, pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, including Sections 103 and 161i, and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Parts 2 and 50, IT IS ORDERED that the: completion date specified in Section V

of the January 13, 1981 "Order for Modification of License", is extended to 45 days following the effective date of this Order. The Order of January 13, 1981, except as modified herein remains in effect in accordance with its terms.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Robert A. Purple, Deputy Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 25th day of November, 1981.