



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

October 19, 1992

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

Tennessee Valley Authority  
ATTN: Dr. Mark O. Medford, Vice President  
Nuclear Assurance, Licensing & Fuels  
3B Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Dear Mr. Medford:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF LICENSE AMENDMENTS FOR THE BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT  
(TAC NOS. M83118, M83119, AND M83120) (TS 311)

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment Nos. 188, 203, and 160 to Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52 and DPR-68 for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3, respectively. These amendments are in response to an application dated April 1, 1992, submitted by the Tennessee Valley Authority as a line item improvement of the technical specifications in accordance with the guidance of Generic Letter 89-14, "Removal Of The 3.25 Limit On Extending Surveillance Intervals."

A copy of the staff's Safety Evaluation is enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

Frederick J. Hebdon, Director  
Project Directorate II-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 188 to  
License No. DPR-33
2. Amendment No. 203 to  
License No. DPR-52
3. Amendment No. 160 to  
License No. DPR-68
4. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:  
See next page

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PDR ADOCK 05000259  
P PDR

Tennessee Valley Authority  
ATTN: Dr. Mark O. Medford

Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

cc:

Mr. John B. Waters, Chairman  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
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Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

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Decatur, Alabama 35602

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Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
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400 West Summit Hill Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Chairman, Limestone County Commission  
P.O. Box 188  
Athens, Alabama 35611



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

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 50-259

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 188  
License No. DPR-33

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:

- A. The application for amendment by Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) dated April 1, 1992, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
- B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
- C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
- D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
- E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

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P PDR


2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. DPR-33 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 188, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

  
Frederick J. Hebdon, Director  
Project Directorate II-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: October 19, 1992

UNIT 1  
EFFECTIVE PAGE LIST  
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 311

REMOVE

1.0-11  
1.0-12

INSERT

1.0-11  
1.0-12\*

\*Denotes overleaf page

1.0 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

- GG. Site Boundary - Shall be that line beyond which the land is not owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by TVA.
- HH. Unrestricted Area - Any area at or beyond the site boundary to which access is not controlled by the licensee for purposes of protection of individuals from exposure to radiation and radioactive materials or any area within the site boundary used for industrial, commercial, institutional, or recreational purposes.
- II. Dose Equivalent I-131 - The DOSE EQUIVALENT I-131 shall be the concentration of I-131 (in  $\mu\text{Ci/gm}$ ) which alone would produce the same thyroid dose as the quantity and isotopic mixture of I-131, I-132, I-133, I-134, and I-135 actually present. The thyroid dose conversion factor used for this calculation shall be those listed in Table III of TID-14844 "Calculation of Distance Factors for Power and Test Reactor Sites".
- JJ. Gaseous Waste Treatment System - The charcoal adsorber vessels installed on the discharge of the steam jet air ejector to provide delay to a unit's offgas activity prior to release.
- KK. Members of the Public - Shall include all individuals who by virtue of their occupational status have no formal association with the plant. This category shall include non-employees of the licensee who are permitted to use portions of the site for recreational, occupational, or other purposes not associated with plant functions. This category shall not include non-employees such as vending machine servicemen or postmen who, as part of their formal job function, occasionally enter restricted areas.
- LL. Surveillance - Surveillance Requirements shall be met during the OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS or other conditions specified for individual limiting conditions for operation unless otherwise stated in an individual Surveillance Requirements. Each Surveillance Requirement shall be performed within the specified surveillance interval with a maximum allowable extension not to exceed 25 percent of the specified surveillance interval. It is not intended that this (extension) provision be used repeatedly as a convenience to extend surveillance intervals beyond that specified for surveillances that are not performed during refueling outages.

Performance of a Surveillance Requirement within the specified time interval shall constitute compliance and OPERABILITY requirements for a limiting condition for operation and associated action statements unless otherwise required by these specifications. Surveillance Requirements do not have to be performed on inoperable equipment.

DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

MM. Surveillance Requirements for ASME Section XI Pump and Valve Program - Surveillance Requirements for Inservice Testing of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 components shall be applicable as follows:

1. Inservice testing of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 pumps and valves shall be performed in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Code and applicable Addenda as required by 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55a(g), except where specific written relief has been granted by the Commission pursuant to 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55(g)(6)(i).
2. Surveillance intervals specified in Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda for the inservice testing activities required by the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda shall be applicable as follows in these technical specifications:

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda terminology for inservice testing activities	Required frequencies for performing inservice testing activities
Weekly	At least once per 7 days
Monthly	At least once per 31 days
Quarterly or every 3 months	At least once per 92 days
Semiannually or every 6 months	At least once per 184 days
Every 9 months	At least once per 276 days
Yearly or annually	At least once per 366 days

3. The provisions of Specification 1.0.LL are applicable to the above required frequencies for performing inservice testing activities.
4. Performance of the above inservice testing activities shall be in addition to other specified surveillance requirements.
5. Nothing in the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code shall be construed to supersede the requirements of any technical specification.
6. The inservice inspection program for piping identified in NRC Generic Letter 88-01 shall be performed in accordance with the staff positions on schedule, methods, personnel, and sample expansion included in this generic letter.



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

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 50-260

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 203  
License No. DPR-52

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:

- A. The application for amendment by Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) dated April 1, 1992, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
- B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
- C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
- D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
- E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.




2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. DPR-52 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 203, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

  
Frederick J. Hebdon, Director  
Project Directorate II-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: October 19, 1992

UNIT 2  
EFFECTIVE PAGE LIST  
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 311

REMOVE

1.0-11  
1.0-12

INSERT

1.0-11  
1.0-12\*

\*Denotes overleaf page

## 1.0 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

- GG. Site Boundary - Shall be that line beyond which the land is not owned; leased, or otherwise controlled by TVA.
- HH. Unrestricted Area - Any area at or beyond the site boundary to which access is not controlled by the licensee for purposes of protection of individuals from exposure to radiation and radioactive materials or any area within the site boundary used for industrial, commercial, institutional, or recreational purposes.
- II. Dose Equivalent I-131 - The DOSE EQUIVALENT I-131 shall be the concentration of I-131 (in  $\mu\text{Ci/gm}$ ) which alone would produce the same thyroid dose as the quantity and isotopic mixture of I-131, I-132, I-133, I-134, and I-135 actually present. The thyroid dose conversion factor used for this calculation shall be those listed in Table III of TID-14844 "Calculation of Distance Factors for Power and Test Reactor Sites".
- JJ. Gaseous Waste Treatment System - The charcoal adsorber vessels installed on the discharge of the steam jet air ejector to provide delay to a unit's offgas activity prior to release.
- KK. Members of the Public - Shall include all individuals who by virtue of their occupational status have no formal association with the plant. This category shall include non-employees of the licensee who are permitted to use portions of the site for recreational, occupational, or other purposes not associated with plant functions. This category shall not include non-employees such as vending machine servicemen or postmen who, as part of their formal job function, occasionally enter restricted areas.
- LL. Surveillance - Surveillance Requirements shall be met during the OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS or other conditions specified for individual limiting conditions for operation unless otherwise stated in an individual Surveillance Requirements. Each Surveillance Requirement shall be performed within the specified surveillance interval with a maximum allowable extension not to exceed 25 percent of the specified surveillance interval. It is not intended that this (extension) provision be used repeatedly as a convenience to extend surveillance intervals beyond that specified for surveillances that are not performed during refueling outages.

Performance of a Surveillance Requirement within the specified time interval shall constitute compliance and OPERABILITY requirements for a limiting condition for operation and associated action statements unless otherwise required by these specifications. Surveillance Requirements do not have to be performed on inoperable equipment.

DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

MM. Surveillance Requirements for ASME Section XI Pump and Valve Program - Surveillance Requirements for Inservice Testing of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 components shall be applicable as follows:

1. Inservice testing of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 pumps and valves shall be performed in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Code and applicable Addenda as required by 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55a(g), except where specific written relief has been granted by the Commission pursuant to 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55(g)(6)(i).
2. Surveillance intervals specified in Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda for the inservice testing activities required by the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda shall be applicable as follows in these technical specifications:

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda terminology for inservice testing activities	Required frequencies for performing inservice testing activities
Weekly	At least once per 7 days
Monthly	At least once per 31 days
Quarterly or every 3 months	At least once per 92 days
Semiannually or every 6 months	At least once per 184 days
Every 9 months	At least once per 276 days
Yearly or annually	At least once per 366 days

3. The provisions of Specification 1.0.LL are applicable to the above required frequencies for performing inservice testing activities.
4. Performance of the above inservice testing activities shall be in addition to other specified surveillance requirements.
5. Nothing in the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code shall be construed to supersede the requirements of any technical specification.
6. The inservice inspection program for piping identified in NRC Generic Letter 88-01 shall be performed in accordance with the staff positions on schedule, methods, personnel, and sample expansion included in this generic letter.



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

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 50-296

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 3

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 160  
License No. DPR-68

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:

- A. The application for amendment by Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) dated April 1, 1992, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
- B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
- C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
- D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
- E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

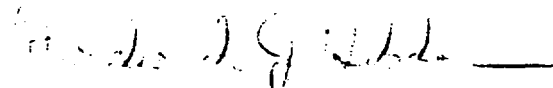
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. DPR-68 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 160, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Frederick J. Hebdon, Director  
Project Directorate II-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: October 19, 1992

UNIT 3  
EFFECTIVE PAGE LIST  
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 311

REMOVE

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\*Denotes overleaf page

## 1.0 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

- GG. Site Boundary - Shall be that line beyond which the land is not owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by TVA.
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- JJ. Gaseous Waste Treatment System - The charcoal adsorber vessels installed on the discharge of the steam jet air ejector to provide delay to a unit's offgas activity prior to release.
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- LL. Surveillance - Surveillance Requirements shall be met during the OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS or other conditions specified for individual limiting conditions for operation unless otherwise stated in an individual Surveillance Requirements. Each Surveillance Requirement shall be performed within the specified surveillance interval with a maximum allowable extension not to exceed 25 percent of the specified surveillance interval. It is not intended that this (extension) provision be used repeatedly as a convenience to extend surveillance intervals beyond that specified for surveillances that are not performed during refueling outages.

Performance of a Surveillance Requirement within the specified time interval shall constitute compliance and OPERABILITY requirements for a limiting condition for operation and associated action statements unless otherwise required by these specifications. Surveillance Requirements do not have to be performed on inoperable equipment.



DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

MM. Surveillance Requirements for ASME Section XI Pump and Valve Program - Surveillance Requirements for Inservice Testing of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 components shall be applicable as follows:

1. Inservice testing of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 pumps and valves shall be performed in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda as required by 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55a(g), except where specific written relief has been granted by the Commission pursuant to 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55a(g)(6)(i).
2. Surveillance intervals specified in Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda for the inservice testing activities required by the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda shall be applicable as follows in these technical specifications:

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3. The provisions of Specification 1.0.LL are applicable to the above required frequencies for performing inservice testing activities.
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6. The inservice inspection program for piping identified in NRC Generic Letter 88-01 shall be performed in accordance with the staff positions on schedule, methods, personnel, and sample expansion included in this generic letter.



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

ENCLOSURE 4

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO.188 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-33  
AMENDMENT NO. 203 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-52  
AND AMENDMENT NO.160 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-68  
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY  
BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3  
DOCKET NOS. 50-259, 50-260, AND 50-296

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated April 1, 1992, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted a request for changes to the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3 Technical Specifications (TS). The requested TS changes would remove the provision of Definition 1.0.LL that limits the combined interval of three consecutive surveillances to less than 3.25 times the specified interval. Guidance on this proposed TS change was provided by Generic Letter (GL) 89-14, dated August 21, 1989.

2.0 EVALUATION

Definition 1.0.LL of the BFN TSs includes a provision that allows a surveillance interval to be extended by 25 percent of the specified time interval. This extension provides flexibility for scheduling the performance of surveillances and to permit consideration of plant operating conditions that may not be suitable for conducting a surveillance at the specified time interval. Such operating conditions include transient plant operation or ongoing surveillance or maintenance activities. However, Definition 1.0.LL further limits the allowance for extending surveillance intervals by requiring that the combined time interval for any three consecutive surveillances not exceed 3.25 times the specified time interval. The purpose of this provision is to assure that surveillances are not extended repeatedly as an operational convenience to provide an overall increase in the surveillance interval.

Experience has shown that the 18-month surveillance interval, with the provision to extend it by 25 percent, is usually sufficient to accommodate normal variations in the length of a fuel cycle. However, the NRC staff has routinely granted requests for one-time exceptions to the 3.25 limit on extending refueling surveillances because the risk to safety is low in contrast to the alternative of a forced shutdown to perform these surveillances.

Therefore, the 3.25 limitation on extending surveillances has not been a practical limit on the use of the 25 percent allowance for extending surveillances that are performed on a refueling outage basis.

Extending surveillance intervals during plant operation can also result in a benefit to safety when a scheduled surveillance is due at a time that is not suitable for conducting the surveillance. This may occur when transient plant operating conditions exist or when safety systems are out of service for maintenance or other surveillance activities. In such cases, the benefit to safety of extending a surveillance interval would exceed any safety benefit derived by limiting the use of the 25 percent allowance to extend a surveillance. Furthermore, there is the administrative burden associated with tracking the use of the 25 percent allowance to ensure compliance with the 3.25 limit.

In view of these findings, the staff decided that TS changes to remove the 3.25 limit for all surveillances will have an overall positive effect on safety. Furthermore, TVA's proposed changes to Definition 1.0.LL are consistent with the guidance of GL 89-14. Consequently, the staff concludes that the TS amendment application submitted by TVA is acceptable.

### 3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Alabama State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

### 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

These amendments involve a change to a requirement with respect to the use and surveillance requirement of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that these amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (57 FR 22268). Accordingly, these amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: Thomas Dunning and Thierry Ross

Date: October 19, 1992