

August 9, 1984

Docket No. 50-260

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

Dear Mr. Parris:

Enclosed is a copy of a "Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This notice relates to your application dated April 2, 1984, as supplemented by letter dated July 25, 1984, for exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit 2.

The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by/

Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #2  
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:  
Notice

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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Mr. Hugh G. Parris  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2 and 3

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONTENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITYBROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2DOCKET NO. 50-260NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR 50 to Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee), for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit 2, located in Limestone County, Alabama.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The exemption would extend by up to 36 days the two year test period for performing Type B and C tests of some bellows, electrical penetrations, and double O-ring seals and valves. The exemption is responsive to the licensee's application for exemption dated April 2, 1984 as supplemented by letter dated July 25, 1984.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption is needed to avoid the simultaneous shutdown of Browns Ferry Units 2 and 3. Browns Ferry Unit 3 has been shutdown for NRC modifications and inspections since September 6, 1983. Projected startup has slipped from May 12, 1984 to September 7, 1984. Unit 2 has been operating at 60 to 62% power since April 1, 1984 to stretch the shutdown date for refueling from June 8, 1984 to September 15, 1984. The two year test interval on a few primary system components runs out starting August 10, 1984. For most of the components

for which an exemption was requested, the two year test period ends in early September 1984. Thus, the extension of the test period for most components in the exemption will be for less than two weeks. Out of the two year test period, Browns Ferry Unit 2 was in cold shutdown for over 1/3 of the time; during this period, the components were not subjected to any significant temperature, pressure or radiation that might possibly degrade the components.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The slight extension in the two year test interval for the specific components identified in the licensee's letter will not result in any significant reduction in a margin of safety. The proposed exemption will not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of any previously evaluated accident nor create the possibility of an accident of a type different from any previously evaluated. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed exemption.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemption involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action involves no use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (operating license stage) for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2 and 3.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

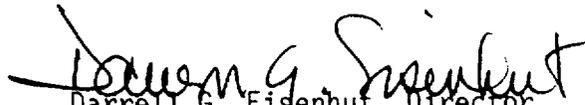
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for the exemption dated April 2, 1984, and supplement dated July 25, 1984, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the Athens Public Library, South and Forrest, Athens, Alabama 35611.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 9th day of August 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

  
Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director  
Division of Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation