Docket No. 50-296

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

Dear Mr. Parris:

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ORDERS FOR MODIFICATION OF LICENSE CONCERNING BWR SCRAM DISCHARGE SUBJECT: SYSTEMS

We have completed our review of your letter dated April 9, 1981, requesting an extension of the implementation date required by our Order for Modification of License for Browns Ferry Unit No. 3 dated January 9, 1981. The Order required that the automatic air header dump system be installed by April 9, 1981. For Unit 3, you requested a 23 day extension to May 1, 1981 because of problems that developed with the pressure switches in the new system that you installed in response to the Order of January 9, 1981.

Small extensions of the implementation date have been found to be acceptable for good cause. (Reference Supplement 1 to Generic SER dated January 23, 1981.)

This letter transmits an Order for Modification of License which modifies the Order issued January 9, 1981 to change the required implementation date for installation of the automatic air header dump system at Browns Ferry Unit No. 3 to May 1, 1981.

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

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

April 10, 1981

Docket No. 50-296

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

Dear Mr. Parris:

SUBJECT: ORDERS FOR MODIFICATION OF LICENSE CONCERNING BWR SCRAM DISCHARGE SYSTEMS

We have completed our review of your letter dated April 9, 1981, requesting an extension of the implementation date required by our Order for Modification of License for Browns Ferry Unit No. 3 dated January 9, 1981. The Order required that the automatic air header dump system be installed by April 9, 1981. For Unit 3, you requested a 23 day extension to May 1, 1981 because of problems that developed with the pressure switches in the new system that you installed in response to the Order of January 9, 1981.

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

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure: Order

cc w/enclosure: See next page

Mr. Hugh G. Parris

cc:

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

Mr. Ron Rogers Tennessee Valley Authority 400 Chestnut Street, Tower II Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Mr. Charles R. Christopher Chairman, Limestone County Commission P. O. 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. H. N. Culver 249A HBD 400 Commerce Avenue Tennessee Valley Authority Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Athens Public Library South and Forrest Athens, Alabama 35611

Director, Office of Urban & Federal Affairs 108 Parkway Towers 404 James Robertson Way Nashville, Tennessee 37219

Director, Criteria and Standards Division Office of Radiation Programs (ANR-460) U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Washington, D. C. 20460 U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV Office ATTN: EIS COORDINATOR 345 Courtland Street Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Mr. Robert F. Sullivan U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission P. O. Box 1863 Decatur, Alabama 35602

Mr. John F. Cox Tennessee Valley Authority W9-D 207C 400 Commerce Avenue Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. Herbert Abercrombie Tennessee Valley Authority P. O. Box 2000 Decatur, Alabama 35602

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

In the Matter of

Docket No. 50-296

(Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 3)

MODIFICATION OF JANUARY 9, 1981 ORDER REQUIRING AN AUTOMATIC AIR HEADER DUMP SYSTEM

I.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-68 which authorizes the operation of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit No.3, 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 9, 1981 the Commission issued an Order modifying the license, effective immediately, requiring an operable automatic system to initiate control rod insertion at low pressure in the control air header. The Order, published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on January 28, 1981 (46 FR 9299) required the automatic air header dump system to be operable by April 9, 1981 or the facility be placed in cold shutdown within 72 hours. By letter dated April 9, 1981, the licensee requested an extension of the April 9, 1981, deadline to May 1, 1981 because of problems discovered during testing of the pressure switches in the new system.

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The requested extension of time is consistent with the intent of the January 9, 1981 Order to provide the required additional margin of safety within a short time period. Operation of the facility for a short additional period of time will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety. For Browns Ferry Unit No. 3, this additional period of time is projected to be 23 days.

III.

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 April 9, 1981 completion date required in the January 9, 1981 "Order for Modification of License" be extended to May 1, 1981. The Order of January 9, 1981 except as modified herein remains in effect in accordance with its terms.

IV.

Any person whose interest may be affected by this Order may request a hearing within 20 days of the date of publication of this Order in the <u>Federal Register</u>. Any request for a hearing will not stay the effective date of this Order. Any request for a hearing shall be addressed to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555 and shall set forth with particularity the nature of the requestor's interest and the manner in which such interest may be affected by this Order. A copy of the request should also be sent

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to the Executive Legal Director, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555.

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If a hearing is held concerning this Order, the issue to be considered at the hearing shall be:

Whether the completion date for the automatic air header dump system required by the January 9, 1981 Order for Modification of License, be extended to May 1, 1981.

Operation of the facility on terms consistent with this Order is not stayed by the pendency of any proceedings on the Order.

OR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

G. E Dar

Division of Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Effective Date: April 10, 1981 Bethesda, Maryland