

August 12, 2002

Mr. Mark J. Burzynski, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
4X Blue Ridge
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESOLVING GENERIC SAFETY
ISSUE-189, "SUSCEPTIBILITY OF ICE CONDENSER AND MARK III
CONTAINMENTS TO EARLY FAILURE FROM HYDROGEN COMBUSTION
DURING A SEVERE ACCIDENT"

Dear Mr. Burzynski:

In response to your letter of July 25, 2002, on the above subject, you indicated that the technical assessment of this issue lacks solid technical basis for key assumptions about hydrogen igniter performance and our information does not correctly reflect TVA plants. As a result of the June meeting with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), we continue to refine our technical assessment and your comments will be carefully considered as part of this on-going effort.

Furthermore, we intend to hold a public meeting on this subject to present our findings and solicit any additional comments. This meeting will be announced in September, and I am hopeful you will be able to participate. Subsequently we plan to present our revised analysis to the ACRS with any proposed recommendations for resolving GSI-189. Thank you for your interest on this matter.

Sincerely,

Original signed by A. Thadani
Ashok Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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Ashok Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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Letter to: Mr. Mark J. Burzynski, Manager

Letter dated: 08/12/02

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