

October 15, 2002

Mr. Keith Bustos
830 Maplehurst Ct. Apt. 2
Knoxville, TN 37902

Dear Mr. Bustos:

I am responding to your August 1, 2002, e-mail to the secretary@HQ.DOE.GOV. Your e-mail requested information about the two plant sites where Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) stores its low-level radioactive waste (LLRW); how many tons of nuclear waste are stored at Browns Ferry, Watts Bar, and Sequoyah; how much nuclear waste each TVA reactor produces annually; and Department of Energy's (DOE's) plan to store weapons-grade plutonium at TVA's Bellefonte site.

The two primary sites where TVA stores its LLRW are the Browns Ferry and Sequoyah sites. On July 18, 2000, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued license amendments to the operating licenses of Sequoyah, Units 1 and 2, to allow TVA to store at the Sequoyah site the LLRW generated at Watts Bar Unit 1. The amendments were in response to TVA's application dated December 17, 1999, as supplemented June 30, 2000.

Some background information on the storage of LLRW can be found in NRC Generic Letter 81-38, "Storage of Low-Level Radioactive Wastes at Power Reactor Sites," dated November 10, 1981, and SECY-94-198, "Review of existing Guidance Concerning the Extended Storage of Low-Level Radioactive Waste," dated August 1, 1994.

With regards to the amount of nuclear waste being stored at Browns Ferry, Watts Bar and Sequoyah, it is our understanding that TVA reports the information on LLRW quarterly to the State of Tennessee, Division of Radiological Health, for Sequoyah and Watts Bar, but not to the State of Alabama for Browns Ferry. In addition, this information is not reported to NRC.

With regards to the total amount of low-level radioactive waste generated at the three TVA sites, it is our understanding that this information is available on TVA's Web site www.tva.com/environment.

K. Bustos

-2-

We have no information on DOE's plan to store weapons-grade plutonium at TVA's Bellefonte site.

If you have any further questions, please call me at 301-415-1485.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

K. Bustos

-2-

October 15, 2002

We have no information on DOE's plan to store weapons-grade plutonium at TVA's Bellefonte site.

If you have any further questions, please call me at 301-415-1485.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management

Distribution:

PUBLIC
PDII-2 R/F
KJabbour
BClayton
WTravers
CPaperiello
PNorry
JCraig
WKane
KCyr/SBurns
RZimmerman
SCollins/JJohnson
BSheron
JZwolinski
HBerkow
AHowe
MPadovan
RHernan
PFredrickson, RII
OGC
ACRS
TJGorham (EDO#G20020558)
LCox
SECY (LTR-02-0620)
OPA
OCA

Incoming: ML022700199

Package: ML022880584

Response: ML022880577

***See previous concurrence**

| | | | | |
|--------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| OFFICE | PDII-2/PM | PDII-2/PM | PDII-2/PM | Tech Editor |
| NAME | KJabbour:as | RHernan | MPadovan | PKleene* |
| DATE | 10/10/02 | 10/10/02 | 10/10/02 | 10/04/02 |
| OFFICE | PDII-2/LA | PDII-2/SC | PDII/D | |
| NAME | BClayton | AHowe | HBerkow | |
| DATE | 10/10/02 | 10/15/02 | 10/15/02 | |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY