

December 19, 2002

Mr. J. A. Scalice
Chief Nuclear Officer and
Executive Vice President
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 1 — STEAM GENERATOR
COMPARTMENT ROOF MODIFICATION TOPICAL REPORT
(TAC NO. MB5387)

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On March 28, 2002, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA, the licensee) submitted three topical reports to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for review and approval. The topical reports provide the technical basis for the methodology and associated modifications to be applied during the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant (SQN) Unit 1 steam generator (SG) replacement project. The NRC staff held a public meeting on October 24, 2002, to discuss questions associated with all three topical reports for the SG replacement project. A request for additional information (RAI) was issued on December 4, 2002.

The NRC staff has reviewed your report Topical Report No. 24370-TR-C-003, Steam Generator Compartment Roof Modification, which proposes the use of through-bolted splice-plate connections to reconstruct the SG compartment roofs. Based on the information provided in the submittal and technical discussions with your staff during a public meeting on October 24, 2002 and in a conference call on December 17, 2002, the staff finds that the design approach as currently proposed by TVA, to reconstruct the SG compartment modification roof using through-bolted splice-plate connections, is not acceptable.

The staff's assessment of the technical concerns with Topical Report No. 24370-TR-C-003 will be forwarded by correspondence within 30 days. As discussed with Mr. Pedro Salas on December 18, the NRC has scheduled a public meeting on December 23, 2002, to discuss the technical reasons for the denial of the topical report and proposed alternatives.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Ms. Eva Brown at (301) 415-2315 or Mr. Allen Howe at (301) 415-2024.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ronald W. Hernan, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-327

cc: See next page

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Mr. J. A. Scalice
Tennessee Valley Authority

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT

cc:

Mr. Karl W. Singer, Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. Pedro Salas, Manager
Licensing and Industry Affairs
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

Mr. James E. Maddox, Acting Vice President
Engineering & Technical Services
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. D. L. Koehl, Plant Manager
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

Mr. Richard T. Purcell
Site Vice President
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

Senior Resident Inspector
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
2600 Igou Ferry Road
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 11A
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

Mr. Lawrence E. Nanney, Director
Division of Radiological Health
Dept. of Environment & Conservation
Third Floor, L and C Annex
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243-1532

Mr. Robert J. Adney, General Manager
Nuclear Assurance
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

County Executive
Hamilton County Courthouse
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

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

Ms. Ann P. Harris
341 Swing Loop Road
Rockwood, Tennessee 37854