



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee 37384-2000

March 17, 2003

State of Tennessee
Department of Environment and Conservation
Division of Water Pollution Control
Enforcement & Compliance Section
6th Floor, L&C Annex
401 Church Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1534

Attention: Mr. Paul E. Davis, Director

Dear Mr. Davis:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY - TOTAL RESIDUAL OXIDANT RELEASE FROM
ERCW PUMPING STATION, OUTFALL 117, SQN NDPES PERMIT NO. TN0026450

Please find enclosed a copy of the incident report regarding the Total Residual Oxidant
release from ERCW Pumping Station, Outfall 117, SQN NDPES Permit No. TN0026450.

*I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared
under the direction of supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that
qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on
my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly
responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my
knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are
significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine or
imprisonment for knowing violations.*

Please contact me at (423) 843-6700 or by E-mail at mgbeavers@tva.gov with any
questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Beavers
Acting Environmental Supervisor
Signatory Authority for
Richard T. Purcell
Vice President
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant

Enclosure
cc: See page 2

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Mr. Paul E. Davis
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cc (Enclosure):

Chip Hannah
State of Tennessee
Department of Environment and Conservation
Division of Water Pollution Control
Enforcement & Compliance Section
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Chattanooga Environmental Assistance Center
Division of Water Pollution Control
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Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2013

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

TOTAL RESIDUAL OXIDANT RELEASE FROM ERCW PUMPING STATION,
OUTFALL 117, SQN NDPES PERMIT NO. TN0026450

INCIDENT:

On 3/10/2003 there was an incident in which a backwash of ERCW strainer B1B-B was performed concurrently with injection of raw water treatment chemical (Towerbrom 960). This incident may have released treated water via Outfall 117 which is a noncompliance of SQN NPDES Permit No. TN0026450.

BACKGROUND:

3/10/2003

ERCW strainer B2B-B was tagged, with tagging being completed at 0407 on 3/10/2003 under clearance 0-67-155 W/W. The process of tagging this strainer includes placing the ERCW strainer B1B-B in continuous backwash. The water from the strainer continuous backwash exits the SQN site through Outfall 117. If ERCW Towerbrom 960 treatment is being performed in the B-train ERCW pump wells during B-train strainer backwash, then treated water may be released via an outfall not allowed for treated water discharge in the SQN NPDES Permit No. TN0026450. B-train ERCW was treated with Towerbrom 960 at a concentration of approximately 0.4 mg/L TRO on 3/10/2003 from 0830-1210 with a strainer backwash flow rate of 500-600 gpm. Therefore, there is a potential that effluent containing this TRO was released from Outfall 117. The continuous backwash was not identified during the period of Towerbrom 960 treatment and therefore no samples of Outfall 117 discharge were taken.

3/12/2003

This condition was discovered by Ondeo/Nalco Vendor on 3/12/2003 at approximately 0900 after communications with ERCW System Engineer about the need to perform an ERCW traveling screen backwash.

Corrective Actions:

1. Problem Evaluation Report (PER) 03-002479-000 was written on 3/12/2003.
2. Environmental Technicians performed a downstream inspection of the river for any indication of aquatic distress. This inspection did not indicate any signs of aquatic distress.