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

March 26, 2003

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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of) Docket No. 50-328
Tennessee Valley Authority)

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT - UNIT 2 - SUPPLEMENT TO NRC REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING LICENSEE IDENTIFIED MATERIAL WASTAGE (TAC NO. MB4579)

Reference: 1) NRC letter to TVA dated January 3, 2003, "Sequoyah Nuclear Plant Unit 2 - Request for Additional Information Concerning Licensee Identified Material Wastage (TAC No. MB4579)"

2) TVA letter to NRC dated February 3, 2003, "Sequoyah Nuclear Plant - Unit 2 - Response to NRC Request For Additional Information Regarding Licensee Identified Material Wastage (TAC No. MB4579)"

The purpose of this submittal is to provide supplemental information to the TVA letter (Reference No. 2) that was in response to the NRC staff's letter (Reference No. 1). This supplemental response provides requested root cause information.

At the time that TVA responded to the request for additional information, TVA was in the process of conducting the root cause analysis. The root cause analysis is now complete and is provided in the enclosure.

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This letter is being sent in accordance with NRC RIS 2001-05, "Guidance on Submitting Documents to the NRC by Electronic Information Exchange, CD-ROM, or Hard Copy."

If you have any questions about this change, please telephone me at (423) 843-7170 or J. D. Smith at (423) 843-6672.

Sincerely,

Pedro Salas
Licensing and Industry Affairs Manager

Enclosure
cc (Enclosure):
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EDMS, WTC A-K

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ENCLOSURE

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN)
UNIT 2
DOCKET NO. 328

SUPPLEMENT TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RESPONSE
REGARDING LICENSEE IDENTIFIED MATERIAL WASTAGE

NRC Question No. 7

What was the root cause for leakage occurring in the RVLIS mechanical fitting and how will you confirm that there will not be any additional leaks of this nature?

TVA Response

The root cause of the reactor vessel level indication system (RVLIS) mechanical fitting leakage was an inadequate procedure. Analysis determined that the removal and reinstallation instructions did not provide direction as to which side of the reducing fitting should be loosened to remove the RVLIS tubing. Additionally, there were no reinstallation instructions to check the three-quarter inch side for tightness. As a result the three-quarter inch tube fitting was not tight enough to prevent leakage. This latent organizational weakness was masked because past practices relied on the fact that the same person was assigned both the removal and reinstallation of the line and would therefore have knowledge of what would be necessary to remake the fitting(s).

Actions to prevent this condition are the following:

1) The procedure for removal and reinstallation of the RVLIS connection was revised to provide guidance for verifying proper assembly of the 3/4 inch and the 3/8 inch fittings.

2) Visual inspection will be performed on the RVLIS tubing connections at normal operating pressure and temperature for leakage using remote video or other means. Otherwise, an alternative method for ensuring no wastage to the reactor pressure vessel will be installed.

These actions, to prevent recurrence, are contained within the Corrective Action Program.