May 21, 1997

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
President, TVA Nuclear and
Chief Nuclear Officer
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-259/97-04, 50-260/97-04, AND 50-296/97-04)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

An NRC inspection was conducted April 14 - 18, 1997, at your Browns Ferry 1, 2 and 3 reactor facilities. This was an inspection of your implementation of the requirements of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants" [the Maintenance Rule]. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

Your program for implementing the requirements of the Maintenance Rule followed the guidance provided in NUMARC 93-01, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," Revision 2, dated April 1996, which was endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," Revision 2, dated March 1997. The inspection concluded that your program was comprehensive and was being effectively implemented.

Strengths were noted in the conduct of Expert Panel Meetings, your self-assessments of the program, and your efforts to adjust performance criteria and re-evaluate system performance based on actual operating experience. Minor weaknesses were noted in your risk matrix used for removal of equipment from service during power operations. One unresolved item was identified concerning your implementation of the Maintenance Rule on Unit 1.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
HAROLD O. CHRISTENSEN/FOR

Johns P. Jaudon, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-259, 50-260, 50-296
License Nos.: DPR-33, DPR-52, DPR-68

Enclosures: (See page 2)

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PDR ADOCK 05000259
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Enclosures: 1. Inspection Report
50-259/97-04,
50-260/97-04,
50-296/97-04
2. Handout on "Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Maintenance Rule Presentation
April 1997"

cc w/encls:
O. J. Zeringue, Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Jack A. Bailey, Vice President
Engineering & Technical Services
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

C. M. Crane
Site Vice President
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35602

Raul R. Baron, General Manager
Nuclear Assurance and Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
4J Blue Ridge
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Masoud Bajestani, Plant Manager
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35609

(cc w/encls cont'd - See page 3)

(cc w/encls cont'd)
Pedro Salas, Manager
Licensing and Industry Affairs
Tennessee Valley Authority
4J Blue Ridge
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. Timothy E. Abney, Manager
Licensing and Industry Affairs
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35609

General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 10H
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

Chairman
Limestone County Commission
310 West Washington Street
Athens, AL 35611

State Health Officer
Alabama Department of Public Health
434 Monroe Street
Montgomery, AL 36130-1701

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
10833 Shaw Road
Athens, AL 35611

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NAME	RGibbs:tj	BBearden	BCrowley	MMiller	SSparks	
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