



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Decatur, Alabama 35609-2000

January 16, 2004

10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Mail Stop OWFN: P1-35
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of)
Tennessee Valley Authority)

Docket No. 50-296

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - UNIT 3 - AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (ASME) SECTION XI, INSERVICE INSPECTION (ISI) PROGRAM - WITHDRAWAL OF REQUEST FOR RELIEF 3-ISI-13

This letter provides notification that TVA is withdrawing BFN Unit 3 request for relief 3-ISI-13. This relief request, along with requests 3-ISI-14 and 3-ISI-15, was submitted by TVA letter dated May 9, 2003.

Relief request 3-ISI-13 sought relief from certain inservice inspection requirements of the 1989 Edition, no addenda, of Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code for the volumetric examination of the reactor pressure vessel (RPV) Standby Liquid Control nozzle inside radius section. TVA submitted the request for relief because the nozzle location, small diameter of the nozzle, and thickness of the reactor pressure vessel bottom head prevents a meaningful volumetric examination.

During its review of request for relief 3-ISI-13, the NRC staff identified questions regarding the request. Following several teleconferences, it is evident that these questions cannot be answered in a manner acceptable to the NRC staff. Therefore, TVA hereby withdraws request for relief 3-ISI-13.

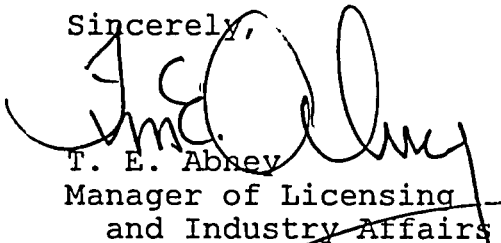
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Page 2
January 16, 2004

As stated in its May 9, 2003 letter, TVA requests approval of the requests for relief (3-ISI-14, and 3-ISI-15) submitted with 3-ISI-13 in order to support the Unit 3 Cycle 11 (Spring 2004) refueling outage. TVA plans to submit a revised request for relief for the Unit 3 Standby Liquid Control Nozzle, inside radius section, at a later date.

There are no new regulatory commitments contained in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (256) 729-2636.

Sincerely,



T. E. Abney
Manager of Licensing
and Industry Affairs

(Via NRC Electronic Distribution)

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Page 3
January 16, 2004

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