

November 30, 2004

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT PLANT-SPECIFIC
SUPPLEMENT 21 TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT (GEIS) REGARDING LICENSE RENEWAL FOR THE BROWNS
FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 (TAC NOS. MC1768, MC1769,
AND MC1770)

Dear Mr. Singer:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the draft plant-specific Supplement 21 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," regarding the renewal of operating licenses DPR-33, DPR-52, and DPR-68 for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3 for an additional 20 years of operation. Enclosed is a copy of the draft report and the associated *Federal Register* Notice of Availability. This notice advises the public that the draft report is available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the Public Electronic Reading Room at the NRC Website <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (Note: Public access to ADAMS has been temporarily suspended so that security reviews of publicly available documents may be performed and potentially sensitive information removed. Please check the NRC Website for updates on the resumption of ADAMS access). In addition, the Athens-Limestone Public Library, 405 East South Street, Athens, Alabama, has agreed to make the draft supplement available for public inspection.

As discussed in Section 9.3 of this report, the preliminary recommendation of the staff is that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3 are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decision makers would be unreasonable. This recommendation is based on: (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS; (2) the Environmental Report submitted by Tennessee Valley Authority; (3) consultation with Federal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's own independent review; and (5) the staff's consideration of public comments.

K. Singer

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A separate notice of filing of the draft environmental impact statement will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Dr. Michael Masnik, at 301-415-1191 or via email at MTM2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

K. Singer

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A separate notice of filing of the draft environmental impact statement will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Dr. Michael Masnik, at 301-415-1191 or via email at MTM2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
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Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
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Docket Nos.: 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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KClark, RII
MSackchewsky, (PNNL)

ADAMS accession nos.:

1. Ltr to K. Singer w/FRN, Svc. List: **ML043360240**
2. NUREG-1437, Supplement 21, Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Re: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2 and 3, Draft Report for Comment: **ML043380217**
3. Pkg: **ML043360249**

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DATE	11/4/04	11/4/04	11/4/04	11/4/04	11/4/04	11/30/04

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BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

Tennessee Valley Authority

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3

DOCKET NOS. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENT 21 TO THE GENERIC
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE
LICENSE RENEWAL OF BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has published a draft plant-specific supplement to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating licenses DPR-33, DPR-52, and DPR-68 for an additional 20 years of operation at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3 (BFN). BFN is located in Limestone County, Alabama, 16 km (10 mi) southwest of Athens, Alabama. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources.

The draft Supplement to the GEIS is available for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, 20852 or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the Public Electronic Reading Room at the NRC Website <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (Note: Public access to ADAMS has been temporarily suspended so that security reviews of publicly available documents may be performed and potentially sensitive information removed. Please check the NRC Website for updates on the resumption of ADAMS access). Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing

the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the PDR reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov. In addition, the Athens-Limestone Public Library, 405 East South Street, Athens, Alabama has agreed to make the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS available for public inspection.

Any interested party may submit comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS for consideration by the NRC staff. To be certain of consideration, comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS and the proposed action must be received by March 2, 2005. Comments received after the due date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC staff is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Written comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS should be sent to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C., 20555-0001.

Comments may be hand-delivered to the NRC at 11545 Rockville Pike, Room T-6D59, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays. Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by e-mail at BrownsFerryEIS@nrc.gov. All comments received by the Commission, including those made by Federal, State, and local agencies, Native American Tribes, or other interested persons, will be made available electronically at the Commission's PDR in Rockville, Maryland, and from the PARS component of ADAMS.

The NRC staff will hold two public meetings to present an overview of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS and to accept public comments on the document. The public meetings will be held on January 25, 2005, at the Athens State University, Student Center Cafeteria Ballroom, 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, Alabama. The first session will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m., as necessary. The second session will convene at 7:00 p.m. with a repeat of the overview portions of the meeting and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary. Both meetings will be transcribed and will include: (1) a presentation of the contents of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS, and (2) the opportunity for

interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the draft report. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour before the start of each meeting at the Athens State University, Student Center Cafeteria Ballroom. No comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meetings or in writing, as discussed below. Persons may register to attend or present oral comments at the meetings by contacting Dr. Michael Masnik, by telephone at 1-800-368-5642, extension 1191, or by email at BrownsFerryEIS@nrc.gov no later than January 18, 2005. Members of the public may also register to speak at the meeting within 15 minutes of the start of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register. Members of the public who have not registered may also have an opportunity to speak, if time permits. If special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, Dr. Masnik will need to be contacted no later than January 18, 2004, so that the NRC staff can determine whether the request can be accommodated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Dr. Michael Masnik, License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C., 20555-0001. Dr. Masnik may be contacted at the aforementioned telephone number or e-mail address.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 30th day of November, 2004.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation