



Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

June 7, 2006

10 CFR 50.54(f)
10 CFR 50.48

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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of)	Docket Nos. 50-259	50-260
Tennessee Valley Authority)	50-296	50-327
		50-328	50-390

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) UNITS 1, 2 AND 3, SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) UNITS 1 AND 2, AND WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN) UNIT 1 - NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) GENERIC LETTER (GL) 2006-03: POTENTIALLY NONCONFORMING HEMYC AND MT FIRE BARRIER CONFIGURATIONS - 60 DAY RESPONSE

This letter provides TVA's 60-day response to GL 2006-03, "Potential Nonconforming Hemyc and MT Fire Barrier Configurations," dated April 10, 2006. NRC testing in 2005 identified that Hemyc and MT materials failed to provide adequate protection for 10 CFR 50.48, "Fire Protection," compliance.

The enclosure provides TVA's response to GL 2006-03. The content of this letter is provided pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f). There are no regulatory commitments made by this letter.

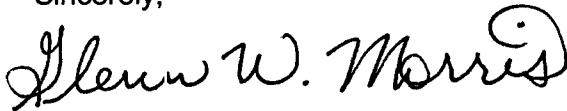
Please direct any questions to Rob Brown at (423) 751-7228.

A125

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed
on the 7th day of June, 2006.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn W. Morris". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "G".

Glenn W. Morris
Manager, Corporate Nuclear Licensing
and Industry Affairs

Enclosure
cc: See page 3

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Enclosure
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NRC Senior Resident Inspector
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
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ENCLOSURE

INFORMATION REQUESTED

- 1.a. A statement on whether Hemyc or MT fire barrier material is used at their NPPs and whether it is relied upon for separation and/or safe shutdown purposes in accordance with the licensing basis, including whether Hemyc or MT is credited in other analyses (e.g., exemptions, license amendments, GL 86-10 analyses).**

TVA does not rely on Hemyc or MT materials to protect electrical and instrumentation cables or equipment that provide safe shutdown capability during a postulated fire.

- 1.b. A description of the controls that were used to ensure that other fire barrier types relied on for separation of redundant trains located in a single fire area are capable of providing the necessary level of protection. Addressees may reference their responses to GL 92-08 to the extent that the responses address this specific issue.**

TVA relies upon Thermo-Lag fire barrier material to protect fire safe shutdown circuits at BFN Units 2 and 3, SQN Units 1 and 2, and WBN Unit 1 as approved by NRC Staff. In addition, TVA is using Thermo-Lag fire barrier material to protect safe shut down circuits as part of the recovery of BFN Unit 1.

Thermo-Lag has undergone extensive testing by both the industry and TVA. These tests were developed consistent with the guidance contained in the applicable codes, standards and regulatory guidance. Configurations installed at TVA facilities are in accordance with the tested configurations or have been evaluated by persons knowledgeable in fire barrier design and installation. The results of both the testing and engineering evaluations have been documented consistent with accepted engineering and industry standards. These configurations, both those specifically tested and unique configurations, are documented in facility design basis documentation that are controlled and maintained in accordance with TVA's Design Control and Quality Assurance Programs.

- 2. For those addressees that have installed Hemyc or MT fire barrier materials, discuss the following in detail:**
- 2.a. The extent of the installation (e.g., linear feet of wrap, areas installed, systems protected).**

Not Applicable

- 2.b. Whether the Hemyc and/or MT installed in their plants is conforming with their licensing basis in light of recent findings, and if these recent findings do not apply, why not?**

Not Applicable

- 2.c. The compensatory measures that have been implemented to provide protection and maintain the safe shutdown function of affected areas of the plant in light of the recent findings associated with Hemyc and MT installations, including evaluations to support the addressees' conclusions.**

Not Applicable

- 2.d. A description of, and implementation schedules for, corrective actions, including a description of any licensing actions or exemption requests needed to support changes to the plant licensing basis.**

Not Applicable

- 3. No later than December 1, 2007, addressees that identified in 1.a. Hemyc and/or MT configurations are requested to provide a description of actions taken to resolve the nonconforming conditions described in 2.d.**

Not Applicable