

August 29, 2006

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

SUBJECT: SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 AND WATTS BAR NUCLEAR  
PLANT UNIT 1 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE: RELIEF  
REQUEST G-RR-1 - PREEMPTIVE WELD OVERLAYS ON ALLOY 600  
PRESSURIZER NOZZLE-TO-PIPE WELD OVERLAYS (TACS NOS. MD2381,  
MD2382, MD2383)

Dear Mr. Singer:

By letter dated June 16, 2006, Tennessee Valley Authority submitted Relief Request G-RR-1 requesting approval for use of alternatives to the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Code, Section XI, for the specified Edition and Addenda, Article IWA-4000, for repair and replacement activities related to the performance of preemptive weld overlays, and/or needed weld overlay repairs at the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 and the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Unit 1.

As part of our review, the staff has identified the enclosed Request for Additional Information which will be necessary in order to complete our review. Based on discussions with your staff, we will expect your response by approximately September 18, 2006.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Douglas V. Pickett, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-327, 50-328, 50-390

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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**SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT  
WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT**

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Mr. Karl W. Singer  
Tennessee Valley Authority

**SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT  
WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT**

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OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM

RELIEF REQUEST G-RR-1

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 AND WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 1

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NOS. 50-327, 50-328 AND 50-390

1. Table 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.147, Rev. 14, identifies the Code Cases that are conditionally acceptable, i.e., for use by licensees within the limitations and conditions identified in the table. Those conditions are identified by the staff during its review of the Code Cases and are necessary to ensure an acceptable level of quality and safety. Therefore, licensees must include those conditions in their Relief Requests. No provisions are made in Regulatory Guide 1.147 for allowing licensees to delete or alter those conditions.

Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA)'s June 16, 2006, letter requests relief from the Code Case N-638-1 condition in Table 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.147. Specifically, the letter states in part that, "In lieu of the ultrasonic examination acceptance criteria of the Construction Code in the condition for the use of Code Case N-638-1, the acceptance criteria of ASME Section XI Nonmandatory Appendix Q, as stipulated in the Conditions of RG-1.147, Rev. 14, for the use of Code Case N-504-2 will be applied for the entire structural weld overlay." Therefore, in accordance with the reasoning stated in the previous paragraph, this Relief Request must be supplemented to recognize the Licensee's compliance with the condition for N-638-1 to provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. The condition stated in the Regulatory Guide must be included in the relief request.

2. On page A4-2 of Attachment 4 to your submittal, you state that it is not practical to perform the full ultrasonic test (UT) of the 1.5T band. Your basis is that the existing nozzle configurations shown in the TVA drawings contained in Attachment 1, prevent you from completing the full UT. Please provide additional information to support your conclusion. The information provided should discuss the achievable amount of area that will be successfully examined for each pre-emptive weld overlay design configuration. Secondly, the UT examination should be performed on the maximum extent achievable.