

March 22, 2007

APPLICANT: TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

FACILITY: WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 2

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 12, 2007, MEETING WITH THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY REGARDING THE POSSIBLE RESUMPTION OF CONSTRUCTION AND LICENSING FOR THE WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 2

On March 12, 2007, a Category 1 public meeting was held between representatives of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, or the Commission) staff and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). The purpose of this meeting was to discuss TVA's ongoing study of the feasibility of resuming construction and licensing of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) Unit 2, as described in TVA's letter of November 14, 2006 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML063200135). A list of meeting attendees is enclosed. Handouts provided by TVA may be found at ADAMS Accession Number ML070740440.

TVA and its contractors are conducting a Detailed Scoping, Estimating, and Planning (DSEP) study of the feasibility of completing WBN Unit 2 by 2013. The planned product of the DSEP is a detailed cost estimate and schedule for presentation to the TVA Board of Directors in August 2007. The study is also intended to identify and quantify project risks, including licensing risks. If the Board of Directors approves proceeding with the project, TVA will notify the NRC 120 days in advance of resuming construction in accordance with the Commission Policy on Deferred Plants. TVA is also preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement addressing impacts of resuming construction and future operation of WBN Unit 2.

Onsite activity supporting DSEP began in early January 2007, with walkdowns and inspections being conducted to assess the plant material condition. For example, TVA has conducted limited steam generator inspections, and believes those components can operate for 10 to 12 years before requiring replacement. TVA is also identifying equipment that will be replaced or overhauled. Additional walkdowns will be needed to support engineering design if construction resumes.

WBN Units 1 and 2 share some common areas, including the control room, so TVA is assessing how construction activities can be safely segregated from the operating unit.

TVA stated that WBN Unit 2 will be completed using the same licensing basis and design criteria as Unit 1. However, TVA recognizes that there will be some licensing and design differences between the units due to changes in regulatory requirements and criteria. Topics that will be addressed include application of Corrective Action Programs and Special Programs developed to address issues identified in the Nuclear Performance Plan (NPP). The NPP was written to respond to a September 17, 1985, NRC letter requesting information from TVA regarding significant problems at all TVA sites. TVA also plans to incorporate upgrades to WBN Unit 1 into Unit 2, including capital projects planned over the next 5 years. TVA intends to

keep the units as similar as possible. The regulatory standard to be applied to WBN Unit 2 are current rules and review criteria, such as the current Standard Review Plan. An evaluation to address severe accidents will also be needed.

The NRC staff and TVA discussed the timing and content of TVA submittals, particularly the "120-day" letter per the Commission Policy Statement on Deferred Plants. The staff stressed the need for early interaction to identify regulatory issues. During discussion of the WBN Unit 2 milestone schedule, the NRC staff emphasized the need for TVA to provide details regarding its proposed regulatory framework. The NRC staff also noted that construction activities conducted before regulatory reviews are completed will proceed at TVA's risk. TVA personnel indicated they understood these issues, and that they will review their milestones to determine if information can be provided sooner than originally envisioned.

Additional meetings and communications prior to the presentation to the TVA Board of Directors in August 2007 are expected. As discussed above, the staff expressed particular interest in early identification of potential regulatory issues. The staff is also interested in the material condition of the facility, so a meeting may be held at or near the WBN site. The staff also suggested that a closed meeting be planned to discuss security topics.

TVA has taken notice of the Commissioners' discussion of WBN Unit 2 licensing and inspection during the March 8, 2007, Commission briefing on NRR programs and is evaluating potential implications.

Members of the public were in attendance. Public Meeting Feedback forms were not received.

Questions regarding this meeting can be directed to me at 301-415-1470 or at jfw1@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Joseph F. Williams, Senior Project Manager
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-391

Enclosure: As stated

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DATE	3/22/07	3/22/07	3/22/07

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Attendees

NRC Meeting With TVA

Possible Reactivation of Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2

March 12, 2007

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Pedro Salas	AREVA
Tom Harrison	McGraw-Hill
Eric Benner	NRC
Scott Burnell	NRC
Cathy Haney	NRC
Doug Huyck	NRC
Mark Lesser	NRC
John Lubinski	NRC
Charles Moulton	NRC
L. Raghavan	NRC
Will Smith	NRC
Sherwin Turk	NRC
Joe Williams	NRC
Jack Bailey	TVA
Raul Baron	TVA
Joe McCarthy	TVA
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Enclosure

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WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT

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