

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Tennessee Valley Authority
Watts Bar Unit 1

Docket No. 50-390
License No. NPF-90

During an NRC inspection conducted from September 22 through November 9, 1996, violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violations are listed below:

- A. Technical Specification 5.7.1.1 requires, in part, that procedures shall be established, implemented, and maintained covering the activities recommended in Appendix A of Regulatory Guide 1.33, Revision 2, February 1978, Quality Assurance Program Requirements (Operations). Appendix A of Regulatory Guide 1.33, Section 1, includes procedures for administrative controls, which includes authorities and responsibilities for safe operation.

Site Standard Practice (SSP)-3.04, Corrective Action Program, Revision 19, provides the requirements for documenting and resolving deficiencies identified on problem evaluation reports (PERs). Section 3.1 of SSP-3.04 provides the procedural steps for promptly initiating a PER for adverse conditions.

Contrary to the above, on October 22, 1996, the NRC identified that the licensee failed to initiate a PER for an adverse condition as required by SSP-3.04. Specifically, on October 9, 1996, the licensee identified that a pressurizer power-operated relief valve block valve was incorrectly left in the closed position after the completion of a surveillance test. After the valve was positioned properly on October 10, no PER was initiated to document and resolve the deficiency.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement I).

- B. Technical Specification Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.6.3, Actions Section, Note 1, states that for an inoperable penetration, "Penetration flow path(s) may be unisolated intermittently under administrative controls."

Technical Specification Bases, Section B3.6.3, Actions Section, states, "Administrative controls consist of stationing a dedicated operator at the valve controls, who is in continuous communication with the control room."

Contrary to the above, on June 12, 1996, the licensee unisolated the inoperable containment pressure release penetration flowpath by opening valves 1-FCV-30-37 and 1-FCV-30-40 without adequate administrative controls. Specifically, a dedicated operator with no other duties was

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not stationed at the valve controls. The licensee had entered Action Condition A of LCO 3.6.3 on June 11, 1996, due to valve 1-FCV-30-37 being inoperable following an unsatisfactory stroke time test.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement I).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Tennessee Valley Authority is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region II, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the facility that is the subject of this Notice, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. However, if you find it necessary to include such information, you should clearly indicate the specific information that you desire not to be placed in the PDR, and provide the legal basis to support your request for withholding the information from the public.

Dated at Atlanta, Georgia
this 2nd day of December 1996