

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

April 30, 1985

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Ms. E. Adensam, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 4
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Ms. Adensam:

In the Matter of the Application of) Docket Nos. 50-390
Tennessee Valley Authority) 50-391

Please refer to TVA's letter dated February 12, 1985 which requested an exemption from cold no-flow, cold full-flow, and hot no-flow rod drop testing at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant.

Through recent conversations between TVA and NRC licensing representatives, we have learned that the subject test exemption will be granted. Since the test exemptions will be granted, table 14.2-1 "List of Preoperational Test" of the Watts Bar Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) should be revised accordingly. Enclosed are the necessary revisions to table 14.2-1. These revisions will be included in the next FSAR amendment (Amendment 56).

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please get in touch with D. B. Ellis at FTS 858-2681.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

J. A. Damer
Nuclear Engineer

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 30th day of April 1985.

Paulette H. White
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 8-24-88

Enclosure

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Enclosure)
Region II
Attn: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

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TABLE 14.2-1

LIST OF PREOPERATIONAL TESTS
(Sheet 44)

Title of Test No. *W5.3

Test Prerequisites

Test Objectives Summary of Testing
and Acceptance Criteria

*Rod Drop Time
Measurement

Testing performed prior to initial criticality. The Reactor Coolant System is filled and vented. Rod drive mechanism timing (Preoperational Test W5.1) is completed and results verified. The boron concentration is equal to or greater than 2000 ppm. All rods are in fully inserted position. Initial core loading is completed. The CRDM cooling fans are available for service. The Rod Control System is in operation.

Test objective is to measure the drop times of individual full length control rods. The drop times will be measured by recording the voltage signals of the stationary gripper coil, the rod position detector primary coil output, and the station output power bus as functions of time. The rods are dropped by first removing the moveable gripper fuse and then removing the fuse in the stationary gripper coil circuit. The drop time of every full length rod will be measured under ~~cold-no flow, cold full-flow, hot no-flow, and hot full-flow~~ conditions, to assure no anomalous effects occur. ~~The fastest and slowest rods are dropped and timed an additional 10 times.~~ The drop time of any full length control rod, measured from initiation of drop to dashpot entry into the bottom (fixed) portion of the dashpot at normal operating temperature and full flow conditions, will be evaluated to be in conformance with timing specified in the Plant Technical Specifications.

48

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ATTACHED

*Preoperational test to be completed after fuel loading.

Revised by Amendment 48

48

INSERTION TO ROD DROP TEST OBJECTIVES SUMMARY
(FSAR TABLE 14.2-1, Sheet 44)

Control rods whose scram times fall outside a two-sigma limit of the scram time data for all control rods will be retested 3 times to reasonably ensure proper performance during subsequent plant operations.