



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
REGION II - SUITE 818
230 PEACHTREE STREET, NORTHWEST
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

TELEPHONE: (404) 526-4503

DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS

In Reply Refer To:
RO:II:JGD
50-390
50-391

June 30, 1972

Tennessee Valley Authority
Attn: Mr. J. E. Watson
Manager of Power
818 Power Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Gentlemen:

This letter relates to your reactors Watts Bar 1 and 2.

Information obtained during inspections conducted by the Directorate of Regulatory Operations, has disclosed that a number of facilities have been equipped with valves with wall thicknesses below the minimum requirements specified by the applicable codes, standards and procurement specifications. In other instances, licensees have not been able to document whether or not their valves met minimum wall thickness requirements. Our survey of this subject has disclosed that the matter is not limited to any class of licensee or valve supplier.

In light of the above information, you are requested to verify, through manufacturing records or other suitable means, that valves important to nuclear safety installed or to be installed at your facilities meet the minimum wall thickness requirements of the specified codes or standards. To the extent that verification records are currently available, you are requested to promptly accumulate those records at the plant site, and to advise this office within thirty (30) days of the date of this letter, of what records are available and when our inspector may examine them at the plant site.

In the event that records are not currently available, you are requested to advise this office within thirty (30) days, of your plans and schedules for demonstrating by suitable alternate means, that valves important to nuclear safety installed or to be installed at your facilities are acceptable with respect to wall thickness.

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June 30, 1972

The valves which require demonstration of acceptable wall thickness are:

All valves within the reactor coolant pressure boundary (Quality Group Classification A) and within the boundaries of systems of Quality Group Classifications B and C as defined in Safety Guide 26, "Quality Group Classifications and Standards." The relevant dimensional criteria are defined in ASME Code for Pumps and Valves for Nuclear Power or ASME Section III Code - Nuclear Power Plants Components for Class 1, 2, and 3 valves as applicable.

Certain of your valves may have, for procurement convenience, been ordered to ratings higher than actually required by service conditions. In such instances, you may, if you wish, provide for our review, an engineering justification for accepting valves which do not conform to procurement specifications, but do, in your opinion, satisfy service requirements.

Satisfactory resolutions of this matter will be a condition of future issuance of an operating license for your facilities.

Very truly yours,

Original Signed By:
J. G. Davis

John G. Davis
Director