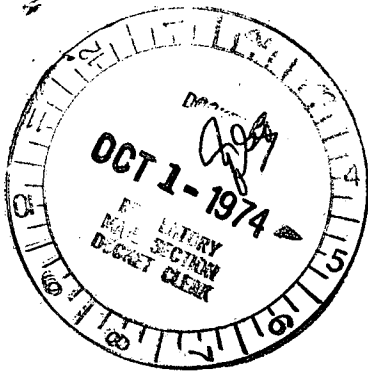


TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE  
37401

**TVA**  
**40<sup>TH</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY  
OF PEOPLE IN  
PARTNERSHIP

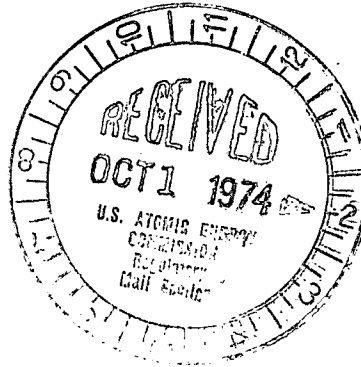


September 30, 1974



Regulatory

File Cy.



Mr. Edson G. Case  
Acting Director of Licensing  
Office of Regulation  
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, DC 20545

Dear Mr. Case:

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

In our letter dated December 20, 1973, we indicated that our evaluation of Anticipated Transients Without Scram (ATWS) for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant would be transmitted to you by October 1, 1974. We understand that the AEC Regulatory Staff has been conducting meetings on the subject of ATWS with the NSSS vendors. TVA has not been privileged to participate in these generic meetings. We recently received a Topical Report entitled "Westinghouse Anticipated Transients Without Trip Analysis" (WCAP-8330). We are now reviewing this report. We are not aware of the AEC review status or any further clarification of AEC positions on ATWS nor of how these might be reflected in generic ATWS topical reports. Pending further consideration and clarification of this entire matter, we would like to change our submittal schedule for our evaluation of the ATWS situation for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant to January 1, 1975.

ATWS has been under study by the AEC Regulatory Staff, the ACRS, NSSS vendors, and utilities for some time. The consensus industry position has been that ATWS, as postulated by the AEC, is not credible. Confirming that ATWS is an extremely low-risk event, the recent AEC-funded "Reactor Safety Study" (WASH-1400) indicates that ATWS is an event of negligible consequences to the public health and safety. The "Interim General Statement of Policy" related to WASH-1400 which was published in the Federal Register on August 27, 1974, indicates that the AEC is not going to relax requirements

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Mr. Edson G. Case

September 30, 1974

based on the conclusions of WASH-1400 while the report is in draft form. TVA believes that it would also be appropriate to defer new licensing requirements for highly unlikely events, such as ATWS, until the report is finalized. Therefore, TVA believes that ATWS should not be a design basis event for any of its nuclear plants.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. E. Gilleland".

J. E. Gilleland  
Assistant to the Manager of Power