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Docket File

Docket No. 50-390
50-391

January 25, 1974

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

Gentlemen:

In early December 1973, you notified us that geologic faults had been discovered during excavation work at the Watts Bar site. You stated that a hold had been imposed on concrete work which would obscure the bedrock until the matter was resolved to our satisfaction.

On December 20, 1973, our staff geologist, James W. Skrove, in the company of several TVA geologists conducted a geologic reconnaissance of the site. A review of his observations and discussions with both the State Geologist of Tennessee and our consultant, the U.S. Geological Survey, have led us to conclude that the exposed geologic faults at Watts Bar are old and minor in nature. We see no reason to modify the conclusions stated in our safety evaluation. Further, as we informed you by telephone January 11, 1974, you may proceed with construction.

We request, however, that within 60 days you provide us with a report which documents the geology of the site as it existed when observed in December. The report should include photographs and geologic drawings of the excavation walls, plus a written description and discussion of the structures and rock conditions observed. Also, we recommend that attempts be made to age date the faulting observed in the bedrock and that the results be included in the report.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Karl Kniel, Chief
Light Water Reactors Branch 2-2
Directorate of Licensing

cc:
Mr. Robert Marquis
629 New Sprankle Building
Knoxville, Tennessee 37919

MISC CB

OFFICE		<i>LWR 2-2</i>	LWR 2-2	
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