

Docket
File

Docket No. 50-390 and 391

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. Godwin Williams, Jr.
Manager of Power
830 Power Bldg.
Chattanooga, TN 37401

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATORY GUIDE 1.97 - WATTS BAR 1 AND 2

On August 22, 1977 the NRC issued Regulatory Guide 1.97 Revision 1 (Instrumentation for Light-Water-Cooled Nuclear Power Plants to Assess Plant Conditions During and Following an Accident). This guide describes a method that is acceptable to the NRC staff for complying with the Commission's requirements to provide instrumentation to monitor plant variables and systems during and following an accident, including in-plant and ex-plant instrumentation.

Recognizing that limited guidance exists concerning the requirements of this Regulatory Guide, the staff has established a Task Force to facilitate the implementation of Regulatory Guide 1.97. Implementation will include two phases.

Phase I: Position 3 of Regulatory Guide 1.97 requires the installation of specific instrumentation to follow the course of an accident. The staff has determined that this requirement should be implemented on plants undergoing OL review and operating reactors as soon as possible. However, in order to provide more detailed guidance than is provided in Regulatory Guide 1.97 the Task Force described above will identify lead plants for implementation of Position 3. After review and approval of the proposals for the lead plants, the staff will forward (about April 1, 1978) detailed guidance and acceptance criteria to all affected applicants and licensees.

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Phase II: Full implementation of Regulatory Guide 1.97 requires that applicants and licensees of all operating and proposed reactors prepare a Safety Analysis which will be reviewed by the staff. As discussed for Phase I, the Task Force described above will identify lead plants for full implementation of Regulatory Guide 1.97. After review and approval of the lead plant Safety Analyses, the staff will forward (about July 1, 1978) more detailed guidance and acceptance criteria to affected licensees and applicants.

Because of its current position in the licensing process, the staff has identified Watts Bar as a lead plant for development of a proposal for implementation of Position 3 of Regulatory Guide 1.97. Consequently, we require that you submit, no later than December 1, 1977, a proposal for implementation of Position 3 of Regulatory Guide 1.97. This proposal should include, as a minimum, the consideration of each regulatory position as it relates to Position 3. In particular, the safety analysis in support of instruments required by Position 3.d. should justify the location and range of each instrument. For each instrument identified, describe the actions and criteria for the actions to be taken based on the instrument indications to protect the health and safety of the public. When recording is deemed necessary, the safety analysis should provide the information necessary to specify the method of recording.

Since detailed guidance and acceptance criteria for implementation of Position 3 are not currently available, Mr. Carl Stahle, Licensing Project Manager, should be contacted if you need additional information concerning this matter. Mr. Stahle can be reached on (301)492-7831.

Steven A. Varga, Chief
Light Water Reactors Branch 4
Division of Project Management

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See next page

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Herbert S. Sanger, Jr. Esq.
General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
400 Commerce Avenue
E 11B 33
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. E. G. Beasley
Tennessee Valley Authority
W9C165, 400 Commerce Avenue
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. Wesley Byrd, Project Manager
Tennessee Valley Authority
303 Power Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

OFFICE ▶						
SURNAME ▶						
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