



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Spring City, Tennessee 37381

JUL 22 1999

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of) Docket No. 50-390
Tennessee Valley Authority)

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN) UNIT 1 - WITHDRAWAL OF LICENSE
AMENDMENT REQUEST TO TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION (TS) and TECHNICAL
REQUIREMENTS MANUAL (TRM) - PORTION RELATED TO CASK PIT STORAGE OF
SPENT FUEL (WBN-TS-96-010) (TAC NO. M96930)

The purpose of this letter is to withdraw the portion of the TS
and TRM license amendment request that would have allowed storage
of spent fuel in the cast pit area and would have allowed the use
of an impact shield over the cask pit area under certain
conditions.

In a letter dated October 23, 1996, TVA requested a license
amendment to the technical specification for spent fuel pool
storage capacity increase. A portion of that request which
affected TS 3.7.15, Spent Fuel Assembly Storage, and associated
Bases, TS Bases 3.9.9, Spent Fuel Pool Boron Concentration, and TS
4.3, Fuel Storage, was approved by NRC on July 28, 1997 as

1/0

D030

9907270235 990722
PDR ADOCK 05000390
P PDR

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Page 2

JUL 22 1999

Operating License Amendment 6, for the spent fuel pool rerack and increased storage capacity.

TVA's October 23, 1996 letter, also requested the installation of spent fuel racks in the cask pit area for an additional 225 storage spaces and the use of an impact shield over the fuel in the cask pit when heavy loads are moved near or across the cask pit area. This portion which was not approved by NRC and subsequently, is being withdrawn as an amendment request from the October 23, 1996 letter, would have added Item 4.3.3.3 to TS 4.3.3, Capacity, for the additional 225 storage spaces and added TS 3.9.10 and associated Bases, Cask Pit Boron Concentration, for boron concentration requirements in the cask pit area during fuel movement. Revisions to TRM 3.9.4, Crane Travel - Spent Fuel Storage Pool Building, and associated Bases, would have allowed loads meeting specified weight, height, and cross-sectional impact area provisions to be carried over fuel stored in the cask loading area when an impact shield was in place over that area. A note to TR 3.9.4 would have allowed the spent fuel pool transfer canal gate and fuel pool cask pit gate to travel over fuel in the spent fuel pool and an additional note would have allowed the crane interlocks and physical stops to be defeated for activities associated with the WBN Rerack Project including installation of the burnup credit racks. Surveillance Requirement 3.9.4.2 was being added to provide verification that administrative requirements concerning the impact shield are met before moving loads greater than 2059 pounds over fuel in the cask pit area.

On April 13, 1999, the WBN NRC Project Manager notified TVA of additional review questions to establish a TVA response date. After reviewing these additional draft questions, TVA has decided not to pursue this portion of the license amendment request at this time and is withdrawing the above affected sections. Because of the length of time since the original submittal, the personnel that were involved in this project, are no longer available to respond to any additional requests for information concerning this subject. New personnel would have to expend considerable review and evaluation time to become familiar with the project. In addition, TVA no longer has a contract with Holtec, Inc., TVA's primary contractor for the rerack project. Renegotiating a contract with Holtec to respond to the new review questions would not be cost effective. Therefore, TVA is withdrawing this request at this time. TVA may apply again in the future when the need arises.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Page 3

JUL 22 1999

If you should have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (423) 365 1824.

Sincerely,



P. L. Pace
Site Licensing and
Industry Affairs

cc: NRC Resident Inspector
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
1260 Nuclear Plant Road
Spring City, Tennessee 37381

Mr. Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth St., SW, Suite 23T85
Atlanta, Georgia 30303