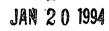


Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Spring City, Tennessee 37381

William J. Museler Site Vice President Watts Bar Nuclear Plant



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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of the Application of Tennessee Valley Authority

Docket Nos. 50-390

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN) UNIT 1 - GENERIC LETTER 88-20, SUPPLEMENT 4, INDIVIDUAL PLANT EXAMINATION EXTERNAL EVENTS (IPEEE) - EXTENSION REQUEST

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This letter requests an extension to TVA's commitment to provide the results of the WBN IPEEE by May 22, 1995.

The NRC's letter dated March 2, 1993, approved an extension of the IPEEE submittal date for the Unit 1 and Common until May 22, 1995. The fuel load and startup schedule for Unit 1 has been revised since TVA's previous extension request dated November 2, 1992. Available resources must continue to be devoted to supporting the fuel load and startup milestones. In accordance with the generic letter guidelines, seismic walkdowns for those items inside containment and for containment performance evaluations are required as a part of the IPEEE evaluation process. The Cycle 1 refueling outage will be the first available opportunity for walk down access inside the primary containment by the IPEEE evaluators. As a result, WBN requests that the commitment date for submission of IPEEE results be revised from May 22, 1995, to a schedule of 120 days following the end of the Unit 1 Cycle 1 outage.

WBN considers this extension to be acceptable for the following reasons:

- 1. The WBN Individual Plant Examination has been completed and is under NRC review. The existing IPE did not identify any specific vulnerabilities. TVA is in the process of updating the IPE to include current design and procedure upgrades.
- The commitment date for submission of the results for the Sequoyah Unit 1 and Common IPEEE results is June 1995. Those results will be examined for applicability to WBN because of plant similarities.

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- 3. Special projects and corrective action programs performed as part of the WBN completion plan have enhanced the seismic design of WBN. Specifically, the Seismic Corrective Action Program (CAP), associated CAPs for Commodities, a comprehensive seismic Integrated Interaction Program (IIP) for Category II/I issues, and a Hanger Analysis and Update Program (HAAUP) has resulted in numerous modifications to ensure plant ruggedness for seismic events. In addition, WBN is not considered to be a plant under the guidelines of Generic Letter 87-02 for resolution of unresolved safety issue (USI) A-46.
- 4. Completion of the Appendix R and Fire Protection Programs prior to startup provides assurance of the fire protection aspects of plant design and operation. This effort has been a complete re-review of circuit interactions, operating procedure upgrades, and hardware modifications including penetration replacement where required and electrical raceway barrier testing.

Because of TVA's performance of multi-plant IPEEEs to include Browns Ferry, Sequoyah, and WBN, and because of the prefuel load completion of special projects and corrective action programs that have significantly enhanced the seismic and fire protection design of the plant, TVA considers the proposed schedule a reasonable approach for completing the commitment of an IPEEE evaluation for WBN and requests the NRC's approval of this extension.

This approach for an extension of the IPEEE evaluation was discussed with NRC Project Manager, Peter Tam. If you should have any questions, contact John Vorees at (615)-365-8819.

Very truly yours,

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William J. Museler

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cc: NRC Resident Inspector Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Rt. 2, Box 700 Spring City, Tennessee 37381

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