



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 6, 1998

*Wocket File
WBN r/h
5D-390*

See Report

Mr. O. J. Zeringue
Chief Nuclear Officer
and Executive Vice President
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 92-08,
"THERMO-LAG 330-1 FIRE BARRIERS," AND SUPPLEMENTAL SAFETY
EVALUATION REPORT ON AMPACITY ISSUES RELATED TO THERMO-LAG
FIRE BARRIERS FOR WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 1
(TAC NO. M85622)

Dear Mr. Zeringue:

By letters dated April 16, 1993, March 22, June 15 and December 18, 1995, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) responded to Generic Letter (GL) 92-08, "Thermo-Lag 330-1 Fire Barriers," dated December 17, 1992, and follow-up requests for additional information dated December 23, 1994 in regard to Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barriers installed at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 1.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed your letters in response to GL 92-08 and has reviewed the Thermo-Lag issue extensively as part of the WBN licensing review as discussed in Supplement No. 18 to the WBN Safety Evaluation Report (SER), NUREG-0847. Your letter of December 18, 1995 responding to GL 92-08 stated that with the completion of the Thermo-Lag field work and the submittal of the information contained in the letter, TVA considered GL 92-08 to be complete for WBN Unit 1. However, if plans are resumed in the future to complete Unit 2, the status of completion of this issue will have to be addressed in a similar fashion for Unit 2. On the basis of its review, the staff has determined that you have provided the information and performed the actions requested in GL 92-08 and the action tracked by TAC No. M85622 for Unit 1 is complete.

In Supplement No. 18 to the WBN SER, NUREG-0847, the staff stated that a review of the TVA ampacity test program and results would be performed after TVA had submitted its final test reports. These issues were addressed in the staff's request for additional information dated August 29, 1996 and TVA's response dated October 24, 1996. The resolution of these ampacity derating issues is provided in the enclosed Supplemental Safety Evaluation (SE)

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wherein the staff concludes that no significant safety hazards are introduced with the use of ampacity test program results for cables enclosed by the subject Thermo-Lag fire barrier configurations at WBN Unit 1.

TVA should retain all documentation related to the resolution of the concerns with Thermo-Lag fire barrier systems for future NRC audits or inspections.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-390

Enclosure: SE Supplement

cc w/enclosure: See next page

Mr. O. J. Zeringue
Tennessee Valley Authority

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT

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wherein the staff concludes that no significant safety hazards are introduced with the use of ampacity test program results for cables enclosed by the subject Thermo-Lag fire barrier configurations at WBN Unit 1.

TVA should retain all documentation related to the resolution of the concerns with Thermo-Lag fire barrier systems for future NRC audits or inspections.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-390

Enclosure: SE Supplement

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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