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NOV 14 1992

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
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Gentlemen:

In the Matter of the Application of ) Docket Nos. 50-390  
Tennessee Valley Authority ) 50-391

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN) - MISINTERPRETATION OF CODE REQUIREMENTS -  
PROBLEM EVALUATION REPORT WBPER920195 - INTERIM REPORT

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e)(1)(ii), this interim report is being provided to notify the NRC of a condition involving a failure to meet American Society of Mechanical Engineering (ASME) Section III code requirements for welding.

The subject deficiency is the result of TVA's inadvertent misinterpretation of the requirements for establishing ASME Section III code boundaries at a non-ASME component to which ASME piping is attached. Review of the welding records for ASME III connecting piping has identified examples of piping boundaries failing to encompass the connecting weld at a component.

TVA's analysis to determine the extent of this condition identified additional welds with incorrect determinations of ASME code applicability in selected ASME piping systems. TVA is currently reviewing the flow drawings for the remaining systems containing ASME Section III piping for any similar deficiencies. The welds located at the boundaries of a component are specifically being reviewed for code applicability.

The welds identified during the review of selected systems that failed to meet code requirements are currently being evaluated to determine safety impact. This review is scheduled to be completed by November 30, 1992.

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The final substantial safety hazard evaluation for the subject deficiency should be completed by June 15, 1993. This schedule is based on system reviews that are being completed to support system turnover to operations. The NRC will be notified of any deficiencies identified during the review process that may result in a substantial safety hazard as required by 10 CFR 50.55(e).

Should there be any questions regarding this information, please telephone Paul Pace at (615) 365-1824.

Very truly yours,



William J. Museler

cc: NRC Resident Inspector  
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