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

SEP 0 8 1995

CDR-50-390/90-07
CDR-50-391/90-07

10 CFR 50.55(e)

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
50-391

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN) - UNITS 1 AND 2 - DEFICIENCY IN THE AUXILIARY BUILDING GAS TREATMENT SYSTEM - 10 CFR 50.55(e) - WBRD-50-390/90-07 AND WBRD-50-391/90-07 - REVISION OF COMMITMENT

The purpose of this letter is to describe a partial change in design methodology for resolving the subject deficiency. The deficiency was initially reported to the NRC on December 14, 1990, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e) as Condition Adverse to Quality Report WBP900432 (now referred to as Significant Corrective Action Report WBP900432SCA).

TVA's final report for this issue was provided on January 31, 1991, and described a design deficiency with the installed WBN Auxiliary Building Gas Treatment System (ABGTS). The deficiency involved two failure modes associated with the ABGTS vacuum relief dampers which the ABGTS design did not address: (1) a potential failure of the dampers in the open position which could result in a loss of the Auxiliary Building Secondary Containment Enclosure (ABSCE) negative pressurization, and (2) a potential failure of the dampers in the closed position which could result in excessive ABSCE negative pressure. In both cases, in the event of an accident, the failures could have resulted in increased offsite

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radioactivity releases or potentially affected the calculated offsite dose, various emission doses, and control room operator doses.

TVA has completed actions to resolve this deficiency, as described in the January 31, 1991, letter with the exception of implementing design provisions to prevent the Auxiliary Building pressure from going too negative (i.e., more negative than -0.4 inch). The original commitment was to provide logic changes to allow for the redundant train's isolation damper to open, and thereby, eliminate the potential for an excessive negative pressure condition. However, after further review, TVA has determined that the use of vacuum relief dampers in the Auxiliary Building will provide a more appropriate design solution to limit the Auxiliary Building negative pressure.

TVA will implement this modification under design change notice W-37107 prior to WBN Unit 1 fuel load. The Enclosure lists the commitments made in this submittal.

If you should have any question, please contact Paul Pace at (615) 365-1824.

Sincerely,

/Paul Baron

R. R. Baron
Nuclear Assurance
and Licensing Manager (Acting)

Enclosure
cc: See page 3

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cc (Enclosure):
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ENCLOSURE
LIST OF COMMITMENTS

For the event the Auxiliary Building pressure is going too negative, provide vacuum relief dampers for the Auxiliary Building. TVA will implement this modification under design change notice W-37107 prior to WBN Unit 1 fuel load.