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June 12, 1995

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley
President, TVA Nuclear and
Chief Nuclear Officer
6A Lookout Place
101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT:

SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE (SALP)

## Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of how we are accomplishing the objectives of the SALP process for your Watts Bar facility.

The four objectives of the SALP process are:

- to conduct an integrated assessment of licensee safety performance that focuses on the safety significance of the NRC findings and conclusions during the assessment period;
- to provide a vehicle for meaningful dialogue with the licensee regarding its safety performance based on the insights gained from synthesis of NRC observations;
- to assist NRC management in making sound decisions regarding the allocation of NRC resources used to observe, inspect, and assess licensee performance; and
- to provide a method for informing the public of the NRC's assessment of licensee performance.

In the case of Watts Bar, there have been several processes, the sum total of which fully meets these SALP objectives. These processes included the series of public management meetings, held about once every six weeks and rotated among the Watts Bar site, the Region II office in Atlanta, GA, or the NRC headquarters office in Rockville, MD. At these meetings, there have been meaningful dialogues between the senior managers from NRC and TVA concerning our integrated assessment of the safety performance at the Watts Bar facility. These meetings have also provided an effective bases for determining what resources to assign for the inspection of Watts Bar. Since they were open to the public, this series of management meetings has also served to inform the public of regulatory issues and safety performance at Watts Bar.

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- P. S. Tam, NRR
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NRC Resident Inspector

U.S. Nuclear Reg. Commission

1260 Nuclear Plant Road Spring City, TN 37381

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TVA

Another method of meeting the SALP goals for Watts Bar is the Quality Assessment of Watts Bar. This assessment is under development by the staff and will eventually be issued as a supplement to the Safety Evaluation Report (NUREG-0847) for Watts Bar. This assessment is expected to provide an indepth measure of Watts Bar performance and quality with more historical perspective than can be achieved by the normal approach to SALP.

A final means for regulatory assessment of the Watts Bar facility is the Manual Chapter 2512 reconstitution. This process is a detailed review of construction inspection requirements against docketed inspection results to assess TVA performance in plant construction and staff performance in completing the construction inspection program at Watts Bar. The results of the reconstitution are planned to be promulgated as a NUREG.

Based on the above and after consultation with the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, we have determined that we have met the objectives of the SALP Program for the Watts Bar facility.

Sincerely.

(Original signed by S. Ebneter)

Stewart D. Ebneter Regional Administrator

cc: O. J. Zeringue
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Nuclear Operations
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