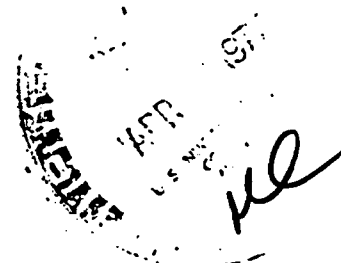


403 Power Building
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

April 26, 1977

Mr. Edson G. Case, Deputy Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555



Regulatory

File Cy.

Dear Mr. Case:

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

This is in response to a letter dated April 12, 1977, from William H. Regan, Jr., to Godwin Williams, Jr., regarding the formal environmental review questions for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant. This letter requested that we indicate whether it would be possible to meet the scheduled April 29, 1977, deadline for responding to the questions. Based on TVA's progress in developing responses to these questions, we see no difficulty in responding to the NRC staff questions under "Meteorology" by April 29.

The remaining questions (enclosed with the April 12 letter referenced above) deal with the subject of "Need for Power." As indicated in J. E. Gilleland's letter to you dated April 15, 1977, TVA believes that a reevaluation of need for the facility four years after the commencement of construction is both wasteful and highly inappropriate. We note that many of the questions on "Need for Power" request information on TVA's general methods of analysis and our projection criteria. We have recently provided responses to similar NRC review questions on the Yellow Creek Nuclear Plant Docket Nos. STN 50-566 and STN 50-567. In addition, your staff has recently reviewed TVA's analysis in the Phipps Bend and Hartsville dockets. We believe that a careful review by your staff of the information submitted in these dockets would provide any information that your staff needs. As stated in

Mr. Edson G. Case, Deputy Director

April 26, 1977

J. E. Gilleland's April 15, 1977, letter to you an explicit reevaluation of need for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant is of no value, and, indeed, is an unnecessary exercise.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



H. G. Parris, Director
Division of Power Resource Planning

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 26th day of April 1977


Notary Public

My Commission Expires 10/10/78