

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402
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APR 17 1990

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) UNIT 1 - PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (TS)

Reference: Letter from TVA to NRC dated December 29, 1989

In the referenced letter, TVA committed to provide the proposed TS for WBN, along with the TS that were to be relocated, and an outline of how they would be administratively controlled. TVA has supported the industry and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) development of the Restructured Standard Technical Specifications (RSTS). Based on discussions between TVA and NRC, it was determined that the best option for WBN would be to initially license with the RSTS, provided that the WBN licensing schedule would not be adversely impacted by NRC's review of the generic RSTS.

WBN has been participating in the industry development and meetings with NRC to produce the RSTS. As you know, meetings are still being held to review some chapters, and the process to finalize the Bases is just getting started. WBN has taken the results of the NRC-industry meetings and formulated a TS for WBN by adapting the emerging new generic standard to a plant-specific document.

Since NRC and the industry are still developing the RSTS, TVA is providing a document to begin NRC's staff review. In addition, TVA intends to update the Bases as NRC and industry agree on its content and as WBN continues to add plant-specific information.

Enclosure 1 contains the proposed WBN TS. The numbers, setpoints, and parameters provided are preliminary in nature. Verification of these items will be provided during the certification stage of the TS process. This document may require revision as the RSTS effort progresses. As stated earlier, WBN will reevaluate the TS based on agreements that are reached in the RSTS development.

Enclosure 2 contains the Bases. WBN intends to revisit the Bases as NRC and the industry finalize the generic content of the sections.

Enclosure 3 contains the list of those Limiting Conditions For Operation (LCOs) that are to be relocated outside the WBN TS. This list is based on the 1985 Final Draft WBN TS, but this list should be considered preliminary until the outcome of the final content of the LCOs that are in the TS (retained) is known.

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The current plan is to place the relocated specifications in a Technical Requirements Manual (TRM). Changes to this document will be governed by 10 CFR 50.59 and will be reviewed in accordance with the provisions of the proposed TS Administrative Controls Section 5.5.1, "Plant Operations Review Committee." Proposed changes to the TRM that are determined to constitute an unreviewed safety question (as defined by 10 CFR 50.59[a][2]) will either not be made or will be submitted to NRC for prior review and approval.

Since the WBN TS will be in the new RSTS format, plant procedures will have to be reviewed and revised as necessary to comply with the new TS. This effort will require considerable resources to convert all plant documents to the new TS to prevent a schedule impact. TVA is willing to apply the resources necessary to license WBN with the new RSTS, and requests adequate priority and resources be dedicated to NRC's review of the WBN TS to prevent a schedule impact. Operator and plant staff training will also have to be conducted to the new WBN TS. Therefore, TVA requests feedback and resolution of open TS items as soon as possible in order to ensure an efficient, smooth transition to the new TS.

TVA appreciates the considerable resources and effort being expended by NRC to develop the new RSTS. With a considerable stake in the success of the RSTS program, TVA will continue to support NRC and the industry in its development and implementation.

TVA would appreciate meeting with NRC to discuss a schedule for NRC's review of the enclosed information and TVA's submittal of revisions to these documents. TVA will be contacting NRC within the next few days to coordinate a date for this meeting.

If there are any questions, please telephone R. J. Stevens at (615) 365-8650.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



M. O. Medford, Vice President
Nuclear Technology and Licensing

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 17th day of April 1990

Sandra D. Brook
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 11/4/92

Enclosures
cc: See page 3

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