

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

January 30, 1981

WBRD-50-390/81-12

WBRD-50-391/81-11

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II - Suite 3100  
101 Marietta Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - NONREINFORCED CONCRETE MASONRY  
BLOCK WALLS - WBRD-50-390/81-12, WBRD-50-391/81-11 - FIRST INTERIM REPORT

The subject condition was initially reported to NRC-OIE Inspector  
J. Bryant on December 31, 1980, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e) as  
NCR WBN SWP 8015. Enclosed is our first interim report. We expect to  
provide additional information by April 22, 1981.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with D. L. Lambert at  
FTS 857-2581.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

L. M. Mills, Manager  
Nuclear Regulation and Safety

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Victor Stello, Director (Enclosure) ✓  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

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ENCLOSURE

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2  
NONREINFORCED CONCRETE MASONRY BLOCK WALLS  
WBRD-50-390/81-12, WBRD-50-391/81-11  
10 CFR 50.55(e)  
FIRST INTERIM REPORT

Description of Deficiency

The ability of certain nonreinforced concrete masonry walls at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) Units 1 and 2 to resist the design seismic event is questionable in that the walls were not initially designed for a seismic event. The failure of these nonreinforced walls could damage safety-related equipment in the vicinity of the walls.

Corrective Action

1. A field survey to identify and locate all nonreinforced concrete masonry walls in the Seismic Category I structures at WBN has been conducted.
2. A design criteria will be developed for usage in the structural analysis of these nonreinforced walls to determine if they can withstand a seismic event.
3. A safety review and evaluation of the effect of wall failure on safety-related equipment or systems in the vicinity of these nonreinforced walls will be conducted.
4. All nonreinforced walls whose structural analysis indicates potential failure of the walls in a seismic event and whose failure will jeopardize safety-related equipment will have structural restraints designed and installed to prevent damage of safety-related equipment.