

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

May 8, 1984

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Ms. E. Adensam, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 4
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Ms. Adensam:

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

By letter dated November 8, 1983, TVA submitted a request for an exemption to the requirements of NUREG-0737, Item II.F.1, regarding the installation of high-range noble gas monitors on the steam generator safety and PORV release lines at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN). By letter dated November 22, 1983, TVA also requested an exemption from the requirements to install the high-range noble gas monitors on the Auxiliary Building vent.

A meeting was held between NRC and TVA representatives on December 20, 1983 at the NRC offices in Bethesda, Maryland, to discuss TVA's requests for exemptions. The NRC representatives present at the meeting were very receptive to TVA's presentation on the Auxiliary Building vent issue, stating that plant specific technical bases were presented in the support of the exemption request but also indicated that TVA would need to supplement its November 22, 1983 transmittal by submitting the details of its meeting presentation. As requested, TVA submitted these details by letter dated January 24, 1984.

Concerning TVA's exemption request on the steam generator safety and PORV release lines monitors, NRC representatives indicated that (adequate justifications) were not presented to support the staff granting an exemption on this issue. TVA maintains that no significant increase in safety will be realized from the installation of these high-range noble gas monitors at the steam generator safety and PORV release lines; however, in view of the staff's position and considering the present stage of WBN licensing, TVA will (install these monitors by the first refueling outage) of the respective units.) Procurement restraints and extensive field modifications necessary to accommodate their installation are responsible for the installation of these monitors post fuel loading. Adequate justifications to allow for plant operation without the use of these monitors were provided in our letter of November 8, 1983.

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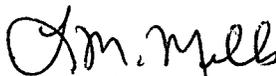
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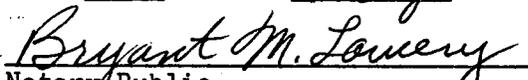
If you have any questions concerning this matter, please get in touch with D. B. Ellis at FTS 858-2681.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY


L. M. Mills, Manager
Nuclear Licensing

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 8th day of May 1984


Notary Public
My Commission Expires 4/8/86

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
Attn: Mr. James P. O'Reilly Administrator
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30303