TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

March 8, 1985

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

Please refer to TVA's letter dated September 14, 1981 which provided our initial response to NUREG-0737 for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN).

Included in the referenced transmittal was TVA's response to NUREG-0737 item I.A.1.1, "Shift Technical Advisor." Enclosed is our revised response to this item which is necessary to reflect changes in the STA program at WBN.

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

J. W. Hufham, Manager
Licensing and Regulations

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 8th day of Mar. 1985.
Paulette H. White
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 8-24-88

Enclosure
cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Enclosure)
Region II
Attn: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

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ENCLOSURE

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT
NUREG-0737 ITEM I.A.1.1 "SHIFT TECHNICAL ADVISOR"
REVISED RESPONSE

TVA RESPONSE (Revised March 8, 1985)

The shift technical advisor (STA) requirements will be implemented upon receipt of an operating license.

TVA is providing an on-shift technical advisor to the Shift Supervisor to support the diagnosis of off-normal events and to advise the Shift Supervisor of actions to terminate or mitigate the consequences of such events.

The STA will have the following qualifications: (1) training in basic engineering principles, (2) extensive training in plant transient and accident response, (3) technical specification training with emphasis on the basis for limiting conditions for operation, and (4) significant reactor training on systems and operating procedures.

The duties of the STA will include: (1) Control Room support in the diagnosis of off-normal events, (2) advice to the Shift Supervisor to terminate or mitigate the consequences of off-normal events, (3) engineering evaluations of plant conditions required for maintenance and testing, and (4) cognizant of current information disseminated by TVA's operating experience review group.

The STA training program will cover the following subjects as a minimum:

1. Nuclear Plant Systems

    A. Basic Components
    B. Reactor Coolant System
    C. Emergency Core Cooling Systems
    D. Residual Heat Removal Systems
    E. Containment Systems
    F. Control Rod Drive Systems
    G. Fuel Handling Systems
    H. Secondary Side and Auxiliary Systems

2. Power Plant Operation

    A. Startup
    B. Shutdown
    C. Power Operation
    D. Integrated System Response

3. Transients and Accidents

    A. Licensing Basis Transients and Accidents

        1. Assumptions
        2. Conservatisms
        3. Minimum equipment taken credit for

B. Transient and Accident Recognition and Operator Action

1. FSAR Chapter 15 events
2. Instrumentation failures
3. Degraded conditions of system availability

4. Limiting Conditions for Operation

A. Technical Specification Definition
B. Technical Specification Bases

5. TVA Operational Practices

A. Job Assignments and Responsibilities
B. TVA Emergency Plan
C. Document Familiarization
D. Clearance Procedures
E. Plant Safety Practices and Procedures

TVA believes that the STA must have a basic knowledge of fundamental plant operation to be able to fulfill his advisor function during abnormal events.

In addition to the accident assessment function, the STA will be cognizant of information determined by the TVA Operating Experience Review Group. The STA will be independent of duties that detract from his primary functions or dilute his dedication to these primary functions. The STA will be an addition to the previously defined operating staff.

While assigned to shift rotation, the STA is functionally under the supervision of the shift engineer and will be available within 10 minutes of being summoned during the shift. The STA will have an advisory role only. The ultimate responsibility for plant operations during normal and abnormal events rests with the Shift Engineer. When not on shift rotation or in formal STA retraining, the engineer will report to his section supervisor and perform the duties of the position he is assigned.

More specific information concerning the qualification, responsibilities, and duties of the STA are provided in TVA Division Procedures Manual (DPM No. N79A15). This information was provided to the NRC during the license review of Sequoyah Nuclear Plant by letter dated February 17, 1980 from L. M. Mills to L. S. Rubenstein.

The long-term program for phase out of the STA program by TVA has not been finalized.