

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

5N 105B Lookout Place

January 24, 1986

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. B. J. Youngblood, Project Director
PWR Project Directorate No. 4
Division of Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR)
Licensing A
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Youngblood:

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

Please refer to L. M. Mills's letter to E. Adensam dated November 10, 1982 concerning the loose parts monitoring program for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant.

Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.133 which concerns channel calibration of the loose parts monitoring system, paragraph c.3.a(3), requires the calibration of each system channel be verified using controlled mechanical input during each refueling outage. In the above referenced letter we committed to adhering to this requirement. The referenced letter also specifies that, at five year intervals, the accelerometers would be removed and mounted on a shaker for calibration. This commitment is beyond the guidance provided in RG 1.133 and we no longer intend to remove the accelerometer.

It is our position that the possibility of accelerometer damage during removal and reinstallation and the change in system response characteristics (i.e., loss of system historic data) resulting from variation in the acoustic coupling when the accelerometer is reinstalled outweighs the information which may be obtained from the shaker tests. We plan to maintain the commitment to: (1) quantify system degradation by injecting a test signal into the input of the charge preamplifier and measuring the resistance and capacitance of the accelerometers to verify channel calibration, and (2) use mechanical impact input to verify channel operation. We consider this method adequate for accelerometer calibration and it provides the additional benefit of preserving system historic data. This position is also consistent with the requirements of the Westinghouse Standard Technical Specification revision 5 (NUREG 0452) and should not affect the conclusions reached in section 4.4.5 of the original Safety Evaluation Report (SER) and SER supplement number 3.

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If there are any questions, please get in touch with K. P. Parr at
FTS 858-2681.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

J. A. Domer

J. A. Domer, Chief

Nuclear Licensing Branch

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 24th day of Jan 1986

Bryant M. Lowery
Notary Public
My Commission Expires 4/9/86

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