



**QUALITY
TECHNOLOGY
COMPANY**

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April 2, 1986
ERT:QTC86.2221

50-390/391

Mr. Hugh L. Thompson, Jr.
Director, NRC-TVA Oversight Group
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, Northwest
Suite 3100
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Thompson:

We appreciate the courtesy and understanding of the difficult circumstances under which QTC is functioning at the TVA Watts Bar facility. QTC remains anxious to cooperate with NRC in its copying of the files so as to provide the appropriate agency with the confidential information we have developed in hopes some rather egregious concerns regarding the TVA facility can be investigated and resolved.

We agree with NRC's position that the confidential files are the property of QTC and that once the copying process is completed and the NRC order is lifted, then QTC is free to remove its files from the Watts Bar facility pursuant to QTC's contract with TVA. Due to the confusion caused by inconsistent press reports, two of which were described hereafter, and miscommunications by TVA regarding NRC's intentions concerning the files; we would appreciate you providing us with a confirming letter. As you may elect, please state therein that the NRC intends to lift the order once the copying process is complete; that QTC has fully cooperated with the NRC and has not avoided or attempted to disrupt the NRC's goal of acquiring copies of all the confidential files; that the NRC recognizes it is essential the information remains confidential and has no intention of revealing same to TVA or any other third party; and that the preservation of the confidentiality of the identities of these employees is imperative.

Two statements in the press concerning NRC's position regarding confidentiality are of concern because they are inconsistent with what we understand NRC's position to be. First, the April 1, 1986, article in the Athens newspaper quotes Kenneth Clark as stating:

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"How we will go about ensuring the identities of employees who asked to remain anonymous has yet to be worked out."

Second, Channel 3 news at 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. (partially corrected from the 6:00 p.m. broadcast) on April 1, 1986, announced that the NRC is considering turning over minor complaints to TVA, all names to remain confidential. No records can be turned over to TVA other than appropriately expurgated records without compromising and/or destroying the confidentiality aspect of the program and thus the entire program.

Please note also one area addressed in the January 30, 1986, order of the NRC is inaccurate at this time although it was accurate when the information was obtained. Paragraph IV states,

"QTC has informed the NRC that there is only a verbal agreement between QTC and TVA to preserve the integrity of the original unexpurgated records resulting from the employee concern program."

Such an agreement has been reached and there is no dispute pertaining to the preservation of the integrity of the original records.

Sincerely,

QUALITY TECHNOLOGY COMPANY



Owen L. Thero
Program Manager

EMPLOYEE RESPONSE TEAM

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