

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

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SEP 07 1988

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

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

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN) - WATTS BAR PROGRAM PLAN (WBPP)

S. D. Richardson's letter to S. A. White dated June 27, 1988, provided the results of the NRC staff's review of the WBPP. The letter endorses the WBPP approach subject to the resolution of comments relating to the Watts Bar Program Team (WBPT) staffing, the corrective action programs (CAPs) scope and schedule, the vertical slice review (VSR) scope and schedule, and the method for ensuring final design adequacy. The purpose of this letter is to respond to these comments.

The initial comment related to vacancies that existed on the WBPT in the two specific areas of licensing and electrical/instrumentation and control (E/I&C). These vacancies have been filled with the appointments of John F. Cox, a TVA employee, as the licensing member, and J. T. Beard, an independent consultant/contractor, as the interim E/I&C member. It remains our intent to appoint a TVA employee as the permanent E/I&C member. A tentative candidate has been selected, and he has recently been interviewed by the TVA Board. We hope to have him in place within about a month.

With respect to CAPs, your letter correctly reflects their evolution from the special programs. You should be assured that the CAPs will be submitted to NRC for review and concurrence following the WBPT's acceptance. We expect that the first group of CAPs will be submitted by mid-October 1988. A tentative schedule for submitting the CAPs is presented in enclosure 1. CAPs that may result from the VSR program will be submitted after completion of the VSR.

The staff's understanding of the purpose and scope of the VSR, including the clarification that the VSR will include all attributes regarding concrete structures except "concrete quality" is correct. This scope is understood by the VSR Team and has been included in both the VSR program description and their detailed checklists to be used in performing this review. The VSR is underway, and the WBPT now expects to complete the VSR by December 1988. The VSR contractor final report will be submitted to the staff as soon thereafter as it is available.

The final comment related to the method TVA will use to ensure final design adequacy of WBN following implementation of all CAPs. The WBPP does not include final confirmatory design review. In assessing the need for a confirmatory review, TVA will consider lessons learned from the conditions

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adverse to quality (CAQs), VSR, and Sequoyah Integrated Design Inspection (IDI) and Safety System Quality Evaluation (SSQE) reviews, as well as the Safety System Functional Inspection (SSFI) review conducted at Browns Ferry. If a confirmatory review is needed, it will be addressed in the Watts Bar Nuclear Performance Plan, Volume 4.

Summary statements of commitments contained in this submittal are provided in enclosure 2.

We believe that these responses resolve the comments related to the WBPP. If there is any question, please telephone John F. Cox, WBPT licensing member, at (615) 365-3307.

Sincerely,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



R. L. Gridley, Manager
Nuclear Licensing and
Regulatory Affairs

Enclosures

cc (Enclosures):

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Enclosure 1

TABLE 1

WATTS BAR PROGRAM TEAM
CORRECTIVE ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)
PRESENTATION GROUPING AND SCHEDULE

<u>Presentation Grouping</u>	<u>CAP</u>	<u>Submittal to NRC</u>
1	Design Baseline Verification Program Quality Assurance List Containment Isolation	10/14/88
2	Seismic Assessment Hanger Analysis and Update Program Conduit Support Cable Tray Support Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Support	11/04/88
3	Cable Issues Instrument Lines Quality Assurance Records	11/10/88
4	Vendor Information Piece Parts Heat Code Traceability	11/18/88
5	Prestart Test Fire Protection Equipment Seismic Qualification Welding	11/30/88

Enclosure 2

Summary of Commitments

WBN commits to:

1. Submit corrective action programs (CAPs) to NRC for review and concurrence. Submittal of CAPs will occur October 14 through November 30, 1988.
2. Submit CAPs which may result from the vertical slice review (VSR) program after completion of the VSR.
3. Include all attributes regarding concrete structures in the VSR except for concrete quality.
4. Perform a systematic evaluation of WBN to assure its design and construction meet licensing requirements (i.e., VSR) by December 1988. Note: This is an update to a commitment by previous TVA letter dated June 24, 1988.
5. Submit the VSR contractor final report after it is received by TVA.
6. Consider lessons learned from CAQs, VSR, and Sequoyah IDI and SSQE reviews, as well as the SSFI review at Browns Ferry, in assessing any need for a confirmatory review.
7. Address any need for an additional confirmatory review in the WBN Performance Plan, Volume 4.