January 27, 1992

Docket Nos. 50-390 and 50-391

> Mr. Dan A. Nauman Senior Vice President, Nuclear Power 6N 38A Lookout Place 1101 Market Street Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Dear Mr. Nauman:

SUBJECT: WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT - STAFF POSITION REGARDING DUCTILITY RATIO CRITERIA FOR STRUCTURAL STEEL, OUTSTANDING ISSUE 19(j) (TAC M79717)

By letters dated May 8, June 6, August 22, October 16 and November 27, 1991, TVA provided information to support its position regarding ductility ratio criteria for structural steel members. We have reviewed the submitted information and conclude that TVA's reliance on nonlinear analytical methods of modeling does not assure that the ductility ratio criteria will be consistent with the stress limits described in Standard Review Plan (SRP) Section 3.8.4. TVA should ensure that affected steel structural designs conform with the applicable load combinations and stress limits of SRP Section 3.8.4. For structural elements not conforming to the SRP Section 3.8.4 position, TVA should eliminate structural constraints(e.g. through provisions of slotted holes or gaps). The enclosed position paper provides details.

The status of Outstanding Issue 19(j) remains open pending TVA's proposed course of action.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager Project Directorate II-4 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Position paper

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cc w/enclosure:

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cc: Mr. Marvin Runyon, Chairman Mr. John H. Garrity, Site Vice President Tennessee Valley Authority Watts Bar Nuclear Plant **Tennessee Valley Authority** ET 12A 400 West Summit Hill Drive P. O. Box 800 Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 Spring City, Tennessee 37381 Mr. John B. Waters, Director Mr. George L. Pannell Site Licensing Manager Tennessee Valley Authority ET 12A Watts Bar Nuclear Plant 400 West Summit Hill Drive Tennessee Valley Authority Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 P. O. Box 800 Spring City, Tennessee 37381 Mr. W. H. Kennoy, Director Mr. H. H. Weber, Manager Tennessee Valley Authority **Engineering Modifications** ET 12A Watts Bar Nuclear Plant 400 West Summit Hill Drive Tennessee Valley Authority Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 P. O. Box 800 Spring City, Tennessee 37381 Mr. W. F. Willis Senior Executive Officer Honorable Robert Aikman, County Judge ET 12B Rhea County Courthouse 400 West Summit Hill Drive Dayton, Tennessee 37322 Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 General Counsel Honorable Johnny Powell, County Judge Tennessee Valley Authority Meigs County Courthouse, Route 2 ET 11H Decatur, Tennessee 37322 400 West Summit Hill Drive Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 Mr. Michael H. Mobley, Director Division of Radiological Health Mr. Dwight Nunn T.E.R.R.A. Building 6th Floor Vice President, Nuclear Projects 150 9th Avenue North Nashville, Tennessee 37219-5404 Tennessee Valley Authority **3B Lookout Place** 1101 Market Street Regional Administrator, Region II Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801 U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 101 Marietta Street, N. W. Dr. Mark O. Medford Atlanta, Georgia 30323 Vice President, Nuclear Assurance, Licensing and Fuels Senior Resident Inspector Tennessee Valley Authority Watts Bar Nuclear Plant 3B Lookout Place U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 1101 Market Street Route 2, Box 700 Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801 Spring City, Tennessee 37381 Mr. Mark B. Burzynski Tennessee Valley Authority Manager, Nuclear Licensing Rockville Office and Regulatory Affairs 11921 Rockville Pike Tennessee Valley Authority Suite 402 5B Lookout Place Rockville, Maryland 20852 1101 Market Street Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

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