

JUN 11 1992

official

Docket Nos. 50-390, 50-391
License Nos. CPPR-91, CPPR-92

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. O. D. Kingsley, Jr., President
Generating Group
3B Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: RESUMPTION OF CONSTRUCTION WORK AT WATTS BAR

This letter documents the concurrence of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) assessment that the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) project has complied with the agreed upon conditions for a slow, gradual restart of plant construction processes as documented in the NRC letter of November 26, 1991, and may therefore resume routine construction activities.

During the period from November 26, 1991, to the present, TVA has demonstrated, and the NRC staff has verified, that the revised WBN organization and construction controls have been effectively implemented. On May 8, 1992, at a meeting at WBN, TVA stated that their reviews and assessments had concluded that routine construction work activities could be resumed with reasonable assurance that regulatory requirements and commitments would be fully complied with. The NRC staff performed additional inspections and reached the same conclusion but with the caveat that a high degree of TVA management oversight would be required to assure continued effectiveness of the program to control conditions adverse to quality because of its far-reaching applicability and complexity.

With regard to changes in processes, procedures and organizational controls, it is satisfactory for TVA to make changes consistent with the commitments made in the May 8, 1992, meeting which, in summary, are that TVA will minimize such changes, responsibility for assuring that changes do not reduce essential program elements will reside with senior site management and the quality assurance organization will perform periodic overviews. Further, TVA committed to discuss significant program changes with the NRC Senior Resident Inspector.

Sincerely,

*Original signed
by S.D. Ebnetter*

Stewart D. Ebnetter
Regional Administrator

cc: (See page 2)

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Tennessee Valley Authority

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cc: Mr. J. B. Waters, Director
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 12A
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

Mr. D. E. Nunn, Vice President
3B Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. W. J. Museler, Vice President
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 800
Spring City, TN 37381

Mr. M. J. Burzynski, Manager
Nuclear Licensing and
Regulatory Affairs
Tennessee Valley Authority
5B Lookout Place
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. G. L. Pannell
Site Licensing Manager
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 800
Spring City, TN 37381

TVA Representative
Tennessee Valley Authority
11921 Rockville Pike
Suite 402
Rockville, MD 20852

Mr. M. H. Mobley, Director
Division of Radiological Health
T.E.R.R.A. Building, 6th Floor
150 9th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219-5404

The Honorable Robert Aikman
County Judge
Rhea County Courthouse
Dayton, TN 37321

The Honorable Johnny Powell
County Judge
Meigs County Courthouse
Route 2
Decatur, TN 37322

General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 11H
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

State of Tennessee

bcc: (See page 3)

bcc: S. D. Ebnetter, RII
L. A. Reyes, DRP/RII
J. R. Johnson, DRP/RII
K. P. Barr, DRP/RII
B. Bordenick, OGC
M. S. Callahan, GPA/CA
G. C. Lainas, NRR
H. H. Livermore, DRP/RII
P. S. Tam, NRR
J. B. Brady, DRP/RII
R. D. Gibbs, DRP/RII
F. J. Hebdon, NRR
J. Wechselberger, OEDO
Document Control Desk

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NRC Resident Inspector
Route 2, Box 700
Spring City, TN 37381

*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCES - ATTACHED

*RP/RII *DRP/RII *DRP/RII *DRP/RII

KBarr:vyg GWalton BWilson JJohnson
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DRP/RII

ALReyes
06/ /92

~~ORA/RII~~

~~JMiXhoan~~
06/ /92

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 F. J. Hebdon, NRR
 Document Control Desk
 J. Wechselberger, OEDO

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 NRC Resident Inspector
 Route 2, Box 700
 Spring City, TN 37381

DRP/RII

KB
 KBarr:vyg
 06/5/92

DRP/RII

GW
 GWalton
 06/5/92
 per Wilson

DRP/RII

BW
 BWilson
 06/5/92

DRP/RII

JR
 JJohnson
 06/5/92

DRP/RII

LReyes
 06/ /92

ORA/RII

JMilhoan
 06/ /92

HEBDON (42) CONCURRED BY TELELOW 6/5/92
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