

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

USNRC REGION II
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

August 23, 1983

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WBRD-50-390/82-113
WBRD-50-391/82-106

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
Attn: Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - CURTAIN-TYPE FIRE DAMPERS FAIL TO
CLOSE - WBRD-50-390/82-113, WBRD-50-391/82-106 - FINAL REPORT

The subject deficiency was initially reported to NRC-OIE Inspector
R. V. Crlenjak on October 25, 1982 in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e) as
NCR WBN MEB 8203. Interim reports were submitted on November 30, 1982 and
May 23, 1983. Enclosed is our final report.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with R. H. Shell at
FTS 858-2688.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

D S Kammer

for L. M. Mills, Manager
Nuclear Licensing

cc (Enclosure):

Mr. Richard C. DeYoung, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Records Center
Institute of Nuclear Power Operations
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ENCLOSURE

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2
CURTAIN-TYPE FIRE DAMPERS FAIL TO CLOSE
NCR WBN MEB 8203
WBRD-50-390/82-113, WBRD-50-391/82-106
10 CFR 50.55(e)
FINAL REPORT

Description of Deficiency

Vertical curtain-type, gravity-operated fire dampers fail to close against normal operating air flow. This was discovered during preoperational testing. TVA's Division of Engineering Design (EN DES) failed to recognize that the Underwriter's Laboratory requirements used in the design of the subject fire dampers do not verify that fire dampers will close against an air flow.

Safety Implications

Failure of the subject fire dampers to close could result in a fire not being contained in a limited area. This could result in a fire spreading and damaging safety-related equipment (i.e., the zonal effects of the postulated fire is assumed to spread beyond the area assumed in TVA's fire hazards analysis). This condition could have adversely affected the operation of the plant.

Corrective Action

Engineering Change Notice (ECN) 3761 has been issued to address the addition of negator closure springs and positive latches to vertical curtain-type, gravity-operated fire dampers which will ensure that they can close and latch against an air flow. TVA standard specification MEB-SS-10.3 on Heating Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) System Dampers has been revised to ensure that all future custom-type gravity-operated fire dampers shall have stainless steel negator closure springs and positive bleed latching mechanisms." All other TVA plants were reviewed to determine if similar modifications are needed on existing fire damper installations. All modifications for units 1 and 2 at Watts Bar will be completed by September 30, 1983.