TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

March 29, 1983

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USNRC REGION II
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

WBRD-50-390/83-13
WBRD-50-391/83-12

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 - INABILITY OF ANNULUS VACUUM CONTROL IN EMERGENCY GAS TREATMENT SYSTEM TO MAINTAIN ANNULUS NEGATIVE PRESSURE - WBRD-50-390/83-13, WBRD-50-391/83-12- FIRST INTERIM REPORT

The subject deficiency was initially reported to NRC-OIE Inspector P. Fredrickson on March 2, 1983 in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e) as NCR WBN NEB 8303. Enclosed is our first interim report. We expect to submit our next report on or about August 3, 1983.

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

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

L. M. Mills, Manager
Nuclear Licensing

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

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ENCLOSURE

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2
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GAS TREATMENT SYSTEM TO MAINTAIN ANNULUS NEGATIVE PRESSURE
NCR WBN NEB 8303
WBRD-50-390/83-13, WBRD-50-391/83-12
10 CFR 50.55(e)
FIRST INTERIM REPORT

Description of Deficiency

The annulus vacuum control subsystem of the emergency gas treatment system (EGTS) should maintain the annulus vacuum at a -5 inches of water gauge (w.g.) during normal plant operation. Presently, the system does not take into account the effects of EGTS air cleanup subsystem testing and an Auxiliary Building Isolation (ABI) signal. The effects of both conditions result in the inability of the annulus vacuum control subsystem to maintain annulus negative pressure at -5 inches w.g.

Interim Progress

TVA will examine the radiological effects of not maintaining annulus negative pressure at -5 inches w.g. Preliminary examination based on a similar analysis for Sequoyah and the site characteristics of Watts Bar indicate that the increase in offsite doses due to the cited deficiency is probably acceptable. The results of the examination will be provided in our next report.