

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401  
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

September 13, 1984

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attention: Ms. E. Adensam, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 4  
Division of Licensing  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Ms. Adensam:

In the Matter of	)	Docket Nos.	50-327
Tennessee Valley Authority	)		50-328
			50-438
			50-439
			50-390
			50-391

Enclosed is our approval request for the use of ASME Code Case N-401, "Eddy Current Examination - Recording Data," at the Sequoyah, Watts Bar and Bellefonte Nuclear Plants. Although Code Case N-401 is not referenced in Regulatory Guide 1.147, this Code Case was passed by the Main Committee of the ASME on November 4, 1983 and subsequently was approved by the ASME Council. Also, the NRC issued approval on June 8, 1984 to Commonwealth Edison Company, by letter from B. J. Youngblood to Dennis L. Farrar, to use Code Case N-401. This request was discussed with Carl Stahle of your staff in a telephone conversation on September 11, 1984.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please get in touch with Jerry Wills at FTS 858-2683.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

*L. M. Mills*  
L. M. Mills, Manager  
Nuclear Licensing

Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 13<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 1984

*Paulette H. White*  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires 8-24-88  
Enclosure

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Enclosure)  
Region II  
Attn: Mr. James P. O'Reilly Administrator  
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900  
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

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ENCLOSURE

Request for Approval for Use of  
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We plan to use a ZETEC Model MIZ-18 eddy current instrument which records digitized data on magnetic tape. We consider this type system to be superior to other available instruments because the system allows more accurate recording of data. However, NRC approval is required because examinations with the MIZ-18 instrument will not be in compliance with Article IV-5000 of Section XI of the ASME Code which requires that data from tube examinations be recorded on both magnetic tape and strip chart as the test probe traverses the tube. In Code Case N-401, the ASME has approved the use of digitized collection and storage of data as the permanent record as an alternative to magnetic tape and strip chart recording.

Although Code Case N-401 is not referenced in Regulatory Guide 1.147, "Inservice Inspection Code Case Acceptability, ASME Section XI," this Code Case was passed by the Main Committee of the ASME on November 4, 1983 and subsequently approved by the ASME Council. Also, on June 8, 1984, by letter from B. J. Youngblood to Dennis L. Farrar, NRC issued approval to Commonwealth Edison to utilize Code Case N-401. We believe that Code Case N-401 is technically acceptable.

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