



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Decatur, Alabama 35609-2000

November 14, 2008

TVA-BFN-TS-418
TVA-BFN-TS-431

10 CFR 50.90

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
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Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

In the Matter of)
Tennessee Valley Authority)

Docket Nos. 50-259
50-260
50-296

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) – UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (TS) CHANGES TS-431 AND TS-418 – EXTENDED POWER UPRATE (EPU) – CORRECTION TO SCHEDULE LETTER REGARDING EPU (TAC NOS. MD5262, MD5263, AND MD5264)

By letters dated June 28, 2004 and June 25, 2004 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML041840109 and ML041840301), TVA submitted license amendment applications to NRC for the EPU operation of BFN Unit 1 and BFN Units 2 and 3, respectively. NRC provided acceptance letters for the EPU submittals on February 23, 2005 (ML050560150 and ML050560337). The proposed amendments would change the operating licenses to increase the maximum authorized power level of each reactor by approximately 14 percent from the current licensed thermal power (CLTP) of 3458 megawatts thermal (MWt) to 3952 MWt. The only unresolved staff issue that TVA is aware of is the submittal and final review of the steam dryer structural integrity analysis.

BFN Unit 1 and 2 EPU Status

On October 31, 2008, TVA submitted a revised Unit 1 dryer stress report, the Unit 1 and 2 dryer load report, and the scale model test (SMT) report for both Units 1 and 2. A revised Unit 2 dryer stress report and the response to the two remaining dryer related RAIs from the draft Round 22 RAI were submitted on November 14, 2008. These submittals address all outstanding RAI questions for Unit 1 and Unit 2. Therefore, TVA is requesting that NRC complete the review and approval of the Unit 1 and 2 EPU license amendments so that implementation can begin prior to the 2009 summer peak demand.

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NRR

BFN Unit 3 EPU Status

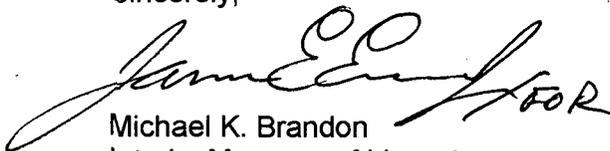
A full set of main steam line (MSL) strain gages was installed on the four MSLs during the Unit 3 refueling outage in Spring 2008 to collect data to complete the required Unit 3 steam dryer structural integrity analyses. However, a large number of the MSL gages failed during initial reactor heat-up from the refueling outage, which resulted in Unit 3 not having sufficient MSL gage data to perform the remainder of steam dryer EPU analyses. To repair the Unit 3 MSL strain gages prior to the next scheduled refueling outage, a lengthy mid-cycle outage is required.

TVA is pursuing a planned Unit 3 mid-cycle outage in Fall 2009 to repair the MSL gages and collect MSL data to allow completion of the Unit 3 steam dryer structural integrity analyses. This schedule provides sufficient time for the completion of the Unit 3 steam dryer analyses including submittal and NRC review with the goal of having the amendment approved in time for Unit 3 Cycle 15 operation, which starts in Spring 2010. EPU hardware changes and steam dryer structural integrity modifications would be implemented during the Cycle 14 refueling outage in Spring 2010.

The original Units 2 and 3 EPU license amendment requests were submitted as a single request since the basis and justification for EPU operation were the same. Similarly, Units 2 and 3 RAIs and TVA responses were the same for both units with the one exception being the Unit 3 steam dryer structural integrity analyses. The original expectation by both TVA and NRC was that the Unit 2 and 3 EPU license applications would be approved together. However, TVA recognizes that the schedule delay in obtaining and analyzing Unit 3 MSL data may necessitate separating the Unit 3 EPU approval from that of Unit 2. TVA understands that the majority of the Unit 3 review is complete and will be documented in a manner that facilitates efficient resumption of the licensing process in the Fall of 2009. TVA plans to submit the revised Unit 3 dryer stress report, dryer load report, and the Unit 3 SMT report no later than November 1, 2009.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact James Emens at (256)729-7658

Sincerely,



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Interim Manager of Licensing
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Page 3
November 14, 2008

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