



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Soddy Daisy, Tennessee 37384-2000

June 03, 2009

Joe Hartman
Environmental Protection Specialist
State of Tennessee
Department of Environment & Conservation
Division of Solid Waste Management
Chattanooga Environmental Field Office
540 McCallie Avenue, Suite 550
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Dear Mr. Hartman:

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) EPA ID NO. TN5 64-002-0504/NPDES
PERMIT NO. TN0026450 - REPORT REQUEST FOR CONDENSER
CIRCULATING WATER (CCW) INTAKE FOREBAY SPILL

Enclosed for your review is a summary of the incident and corrective actions involving the reportable spill in the CCW intake forebay per your request to Stephanie Howard on May 13, 2009.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Stephanie Howard at (423) 843-6700 or Ann Hurt at (423) 843-6714 of Sequoyah's Environmental staff.

Sincerely,

Timothy P. Cleary
Site Vice President
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant

Enclosure

cc (Enclosure):

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

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ENCLOSURE

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT REPORT REQUEST FOR CONDENSER CIRCULATING WATER (CCW) INTAKE FOREBAY SPILL

Incident Description

On Wednesday May 13, 2009, at approximately 1410 Eastern daylight time (EDT), a track excavator performing work on a steep bank adjacent to the CCW intake forebay (intake) slid into the intake at the discharge of the cold water return channel. The SQN Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan was immediately initiated. At 1505, SQN Environmental discovered a slight sheen in the water. It is estimated that less than one gallon of oil was spilled, the source being primarily grease and other lubricants used on the exterior of the equipment. At 1535 EDT, SQN Environmental personnel notified the National Response Center of the oil spill. Report No. 905504 was initiated by the National Response Center. Additional external notifications were made to the Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Chattanooga Field Office, Tennessee Emergency Response Agency, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Corrective Actions

An absorbent boom and skirted boom were placed in the water around the track excavator to contain the sheen by approximately 1600 EDT. Because the spill occurred in a low flow area (outside the main channel of the intake) and favorable meteorological conditions (light winds, no rain), the water was fairly stagnant and the sheen easily contained. At 2259 EDT, the track excavator was removed from the water. Absorbent pads and sphagsorb were used to absorb the sheen. Also, boom-like "eels" have been placed along the bank to minimize any soil runoff into the intake from where vegetation was disturbed during the track excavator removal. As of May 19, 2009, no sheen was observed in the water. However, the booms are currently still in place as a precautionary measure.

Documentation of the incident, the follow up investigation, and corrective actions will be performed in accordance with the site's Corrective Action Program.