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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 10, 2009

SEP 17 2009

Commissioners Office
Tennessee Department of Transportation
James K. Polk Building
505 Deaderick Street
Suite 700
Nashville, TN 37243-0349

SUBJECT: WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2, OPERATING LICENSE
APPLICATION REVIEW – ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING

Gentlemen:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is reviewing an application submitted by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for an operating license for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 2, located in Rhea County, Tennessee at the northern end of the Chickamauga Reservoir, Tennessee River Mile 528. The NRC is conducting a scoping process for preparing a Supplement to the Final Environmental Statement (FES) published in 1978. The Supplement to the FES will be prepared under Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 51, the NRC's regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. You are invited to participate in the scoping process.

The proposed action in response to the application is the issuance of an operating license that would authorize TVA to possess, use, and operate a second lightwater nuclear reactor, WBN Unit 2, located on the applicant's site in Rhea County, Tennessee. Major buildings at the plant were completed prior to 1985 so the existing footprint of Unit 2 remains as almost originally planned.

The matters to be addressed in the supplement include evaluation of new and significant circumstances or information, relevant to environmental concerns that developed after the 1978 FES and a previous supplement to the FES published by the NRC in 1995. In accordance with 10 CFR Part 51, the Supplemental FES will include analyses of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources, aquatic and terrestrial ecology, water resources, socioeconomics, land use, and related natural resources.

The NRC staff plans to hold a public environmental scoping meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2009. The scoping meeting will be held at the Magnuson Hotel at 1421 Murrays Chapel Road in Sweetwater, Tennessee, on Tuesday, October 6, 2009. There will be two sessions to accommodate interested parties. The first session will be at 1:30 p.m. and the second at 6:30 p.m.

You may send written comments on the environmental scope of the WBN Unit 2 operating license review to: Chief, Rulemaking, Directives and Editing Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

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Gentlemen

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Washington, D.C., 20555-0001. Electronic comments may be sent by e-mail to the NRC at RidsNrrPMWattsBar2.Resource@nrc.gov. Comments should be sent no later than October 30, 2009, to be considered in the scoping process. Comments will be available electronically and accessible through ADAMS at <http://adamswebsearch.nrc.gov/dologin.htm>. Because your comments will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information, the NRC cautions against including any information in your submission that you do not want to be publicly disclosed.

The NRC requests that any party soliciting or aggregating comments received from other persons for submission to the NRC inform those persons that the NRC will not edit their comments to remove any identifying or contact information, and therefore, they should not include any information in their comments that they do not want publicly disclosed.

At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will prepare a summary of the significant issues identified and the conclusions reached, and mail a copy to you

If you have any questions concerning the NRC's review of this operating license application, please contact Mr. Joel S. Wiebe, Senior Project Manager, at 301-415-6606 or by e-mail at joel.wiebe@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Joel S. Wiebe, Senior Project Manager
Watts Bar Special Projects Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-391

cc: Distribution via Listserv