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MAR 12 1974

Docket Nos. 50-438
and 50-439

Tennessee Valley Authority
 ATTN: Mr. James E. Watson
 Manager of Power
 818 Power Building
 Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Dear Mr. Watson:

This is in response to your letter of February 15, 1974, from Mr. J. E. Gillett in which TVA presented, among other things, the design details and capital and environmental costs associated with alternate plant cooling water intakes that are viable with regard to safety considerations. Based on our review of the additional information included in your letter, we do not anticipate requesting further information.

We wish to emphasize that our concern relating to the intake structure design is a result of the lack of adequate aquatic data upon which to base an assessment of the environmental impact of the proposed intake design. As you are aware, a fishery study is outlined in the Commission's Bellefonte Nuclear Plant Draft Environmental Statement (DES), which characterizes the type and scope of data needed for this assessment. When the data from this fishery study are available, we will make a final determination as to whether the proposed location and design of the intake structure is acceptable from an environmental impact standpoint.

Preliminary discussions with your staff leads us to believe that the fishery study can be concluded within the proposed two year time span without significantly impacting your construction schedule. It therefore appears to us, that this issue will be successfully resolved and we are proceeding on that basis.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
 Daniel R. Muller

Daniel R. Muller, Assistant Director
 for Environmental Projects
 Directorate of Licensing

cc: Those on attached

cb

OFFICE	EP-4	EP-4	EP		
SURNAME	GD Dittman	WR Regan	DR Muller		
DATE	3/11/74	3/11/74	3/11/74		

MAR 12 1974

cc: Mr. R. H. Marquis
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