

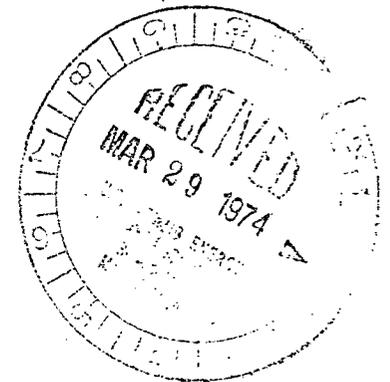


UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

29 MAR 1974

Mr. L. Manning Muntzing
Director of Regulation
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

50-438
50-439



Dear Mr. Muntzing:

The Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the draft environmental statement issued in conjunction with the application of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a construction permit for the proposed Bellefonte Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2. Our detailed comments are enclosed.

Our review indicates that operation of the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant, as proposed, will comply with Alabama water quality standards and the thermal requirements of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) Amendments of 1972. However, the choice of intake structure location may not reflect the best available technology as presented in Section 316(b) of the FWPCA. Accordingly, we believe the AEC staff should encourage the applicant to explore methods of locating the intake structure such that impacts are further reduced.

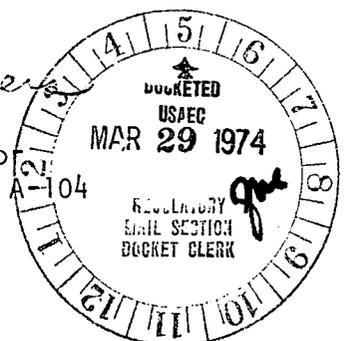
The radioactive waste treatment equipment planned for Bellefonte Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2, in combination with TVA commitments to maintain and operate the equipment properly, should result in population and individual doses which can be considered "as low as practicable."

In light of our review and in accordance with EPA procedures, we have classified this project as LO (Lack of Objections) and have rated the draft environmental statement Category 1 (Adequate). If you or your staff have any questions concerning our classification or comments, we will be happy to discuss them with you.

Sincerely yours.

Sheldon Meyers

Sheldon Meyers, Director
Office of Federal Activities A-104



Enclosure

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