

OCT 3 1974

Docket Nos. 50-438
and 50-439

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

Gentlemen:

We have received your letter of September 30, 1974, requesting a change in the submittal date of your evaluation of Anticipated Transients Without Scram (ATWS) for the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant. You state that the Babcock & Wilcox Company (B&W) is performing this ATWS analysis and that B&W will not complete the analysis until December 13, 1974. You should submit this analysis as soon after December 13, 1974, as possible, but not later than February 1, 1975.

In this letter, you also state that TVA has not been privileged to participate in the staff discussions with B&W on this subject and, therefore, you are not aware of the present status of our review. There has been no intention on our part to limit TVA's participation in these discussions, in fact, summaries of the staff's discussions are available to the general public. In addition, it is the normal procedure for the NSSS vendor to keep its customer informed about progress in generic discussions of this type. We also note that you were aware of these generic discussions in your December 26, 1973 response to our ATWS evaluation request and appeared to prefer our direct discussions with B&W. However, in the future if you wish to participate in generic discussions involving one of your nuclear plants, you should make this desire known through the assigned Licensing Project Manager.

You mention in your letter that TVA believes ATWS should not be a design basis event for any of its nuclear plants based largely on the results contained in WASH-1400 (DRAFT). As you correctly note, it is not the present AEC policy to use this document as the basis for licensing decisions. Therefore, at the present time, we do not expect any changes in the licensing position presented in WASH-1270. To the extent that your ATWS evaluation, now due no later than

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February 1, 1975, indicates the need for design changes to satisfy the licensing position of WASH-1270, we would expect those changes to be made unless there is sufficient basis presented by TVA for doing otherwise. In the interim, you should not foreclose the option to make any changes that might be required to the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant design to satisfy the licensing position in WASH-1270.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

A. Giambusso

**A. Giambusso, Deputy Director
for Reactor Projects
Directorate of Licensing**

**cc: Mr. R. H. Marquis
General Counsel
629 New Sprankle Building
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902**

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