

Docket

OCT 9 1973

Docket No. 50-438
and 50-439

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

Gentlemen:

The Regulatory staff has had the subject of anticipated transients without scram (ATWS) in water-cooled reactor power plants under study for some time.

The staff has completed its review of ATWS and has concluded that measures should be taken to improve nuclear plant designs in this regard. Details of the staff review and conclusions and of the steps that should be taken to deal with ATWS are given in the staff "Technical Report on Anticipated Transients Without Scram for Water-Cooled Power Reactors," September 1973, a copy of which is enclosed for your information. The improvement measures acceptable to the staff are outlined in the staff position on ATWS, Appendix A, of the enclosed report in descending order of preference; that is, the "A" sections of the staff position describe the ultimate objective. For those facilities for which the imposition of the requirements of the "A" sections is not practical, the staff will accept the alternate approaches of the "B" or "C" sections subject to the limitations specified in the staff position. The rationale and bases for this approach are given in the enclosed report.

Acceptable measures that should be taken for the subject facility(s) are either those in the "A" or the "B" sections of the staff position. If there is reasonable assurance that the provisions of the "A" sections can be met satisfactorily on a schedule consistent with that of the subject facility(s), you need not analyze the consequences of ATWS. You must, however, provide sufficient analyses and discussion to justify

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your position and a commitment that you will meet the provisions of the "A" sections or revert to the provisions of the "B" sections if required by the staff. You should advise the staff by no later than January 1, 1974, of the approach you intend to take and submit a detailed report addressing fully, either the "A" or "B" sections of the staff position by October 1, 1974, as an amendment to the Safety Analysis Report.

The staff is prepared to discuss this matter with you at a mutually agreeable time.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

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

Enclosure:

Technical Report on ATWS
for Water-Cooled Power
Reactors, September 1973

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

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