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Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

FEB 14 1991

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ATTN: Document Control Desk Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of the Application of) Docket No. 50-438 Tennessee Valley Authority) 50-439

BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT (BLN) - TRANSMITTAL OF TVA POSITION REGARDING SEISMIC DESIGN OF CATEGORY I STRUCTURES (TAC #79276)

In accordance with TVA's letter to the NRC staff dated December 4, 1990, enclosed for staff review is the TVA position regarding its proposed approach for verifying the seismic design of Category I structures for BLN.

A written staff position on the enclosure is requested by May 15, 1991. As discussed with NRC staff and management, timely resolution of key issues such as noted in the enclosure is important to TVA's consideration of the nuclear option at BLN.

The information and positions discussed in the attached paper are related to two additional position papers to be submitted to the staff on February 15, 1991 (seismic ground motion), and March 13, 1991 (piping and distributive systems). Should TVA continue construction of BLN after staff resolution of this and other positions, the agreements reached will be used to govern design, construction, and operation of BLN and will be incorporated into the BLN Final Safety Analysis Report, as appropriate.

Bruce S. Schofield will contact the BLN Project Manager to schedule working level meetings to assist in the staff's review of these positions. As discussed in our January 17, 1991 meeting with the staff, the first working level meeting will be scheduled approximately 10 days after staff receipt of this document.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

If you have any questions please contact Mr. Schofield at (205) 574-8058.

Very truly yours,

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TENNESSEE, VALLEY AUTHORITY

E. G. Wallace, Manager Nuclear Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Enclosure

cc (Enclosure): Ms. S. C. Black, Deputy Director Project Directorate II-4 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission One White Flint, North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, Maryland 20852

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ENCLOSURE

BELLEFONTE POSITION PAPER REGARDING SEISMIC DESIGN OF CATEGORY I STRUCTURES

PURPOSE

This document describes TVA's approach for verifying the seismic design of Seismic Category I structures at the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant (BLN), and for generating new floor response spectra for seismic analysis of piping and equipment located within the structures. TVA requests NRC staff concurrence that the methods and criteria described herein are sufficient to demonstrate that the seismic design of Category I structures and the new floor response spectra are adequate for completion and licensing of BLN.

SUMMARY

The existing seismic building models for Seismic Category I structures will be revised and validated. New seismic loads and floor response spectra will be generated based on the revised building models and the new ground motion time histories discussed in Bellefonte Position Paper Regarding Seismic Design Ground Motion (1). The Category I structures will be reevaluated for the new seismic loads. This approach will provide reasonable assurance that the seismic design of Category I structures at BLN and the new floor response spectra are adequate.

BACKGROUND

General seismic design criteria for Seismic Category I structures for BLN are provided in TVA design criteria documents and are described in Section 3.7 of the Bellefonte Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR). The Category I structures were designed and analyzed using dynamic analysis methods. The design and analysis criteria were generally in accordance with current NRC guidelines as given in the applicable sections (3.7.1, 3.7.2, and 3.7.3) of the Standard Review Plan (2) and applicable Regulatory Guides (RG 1.61, RG 1.92, and RG 1.122) (3), (4), (5). The structural responses were computed by the response spectra modal analysis method using idealized 3-dimensional lumped mass models. Floor response spectra were computed by the time history modal analysis method for the two horizontal and vertical directions. The key seismic analysis criteria for Category I structures are summarized in Table 1. The NRC staff approved the seismic design criteria for Seismic Category I structures in its May 24, 1974 Safety Evaluation Report (6) on TVA's application for a construction permit for BLN.

The Category I structures consist of the following:

<u>Reactor Building</u> Each Reactor Building (one for each unit) is composed of three structures: a reinforced concrete secondary containment (Figure 1), a post-tensioned concrete primary containment (Figure 2), and the interior reinforced concrete structure (Figure 3). All three structures are supported on a common foundation which is supported on bedrock. <u>Auxiliary-Control Building</u> The Auxiliary-Control Building is a reinforced concrete structure common to both units (Figure 4). The Auxiliary-Control Building is supported on bedrock at elevation 615 ft.

<u>Diesel Generator Building</u> Each Diesel Generator Building (one for each unit) is a reinforced concrete structure supported on bedrock (Figure 5).

<u>Main Steam Valve Room B</u> Each Main Steam Valve Room B (one for each unit) is a reinforced concrete structure supported on bedrock (Figure 6). The structure is supported by four-foot-thick walls which are surrounded by backfilled soil on three sides.

<u>Intake Pumping Station</u> The Intake Pumping Station is a cellular box-type reinforced concrete structure common to both units (Figure 7). The structure is embedded into rock on the north and south sides up to elevation 580 ft. The west side is backfilled with granular soil up to elevation 600 ft. The east side is the intake side.

Borated Water Storage Tank (BWST) Each BWST (one for each unit) is a cast-in-place reinforced concrete cylindrical structure supported on bedrock, as illustrated in Figure 8, and surrounded by about 30 feet of backfilled soil. The reinforced concrete retaining wall is also supported on bedrock.

The original design and analysis of the Category I structures for both units is 100 percent complete. Construction of the Category I structures is essentially complete for both units.

During reviews of the seismic design of BLN, several potential issues regarding the seismic building models and the methods and inputs used to generate the floor response spectra were identified. The issues pertain to the implementation of the seismic design criteria, not the criteria themselves, and are summarized in Table 2. While no single issue is sufficient to warrant generation of new seismic loads and floor response spectra, given the number of issues identified, and the fact that seismic reanalyses are considered necessary for some safety-related systems (e.g., piping), TVA elected to generate new seismic loads and floor response spectra for all Category I structures (except the BWSTs which were considered adequate).

TECHNICAL POSITION AND APPROACH

TVA's technical position and approach for verifying the seismic design of Seismic Category I structures and generating new floor response spectra are as follows:

 <u>New Seismic Analyses</u> The existing seismic building models will be revised and validated, and new seismic loads and floor response spectra will be generated for all Category I structures except the BWSTs. These include the Reactor Building, Auxiliary-Control Building, Diesel Generator Building, Main Steam Valve Room B, and Intake Pumping Structure. Each BWST is a reinforced concrete cylindrical tank supported on rock and is considered acceptable without further evaluation because the cumulative effects of the issues below are considered insignificant for this relatively simple structure. There are no other Category I tanks supported on the ground.

The new seismic analyses will be based on the new synthetic time histories discussed in Reference (1), and revised seismic building models and inputs which address the issues with the original analyses listed in Table 2. These issues will be resolved as follows:

<u>1 - Integration Time Step</u> New time history analyses will be performed using an integration time step of 0.005 seconds in accordance with the recommendation from the seismic design assessment report for the Watts Bar plant (7).

2 - Offsets Between the Centers of Mass and Rigidity The seismic building models will be revised to include the calculated offsets between the centers of mass and the centers of rigidity of the building floor elevations.

<u>3 - Concrete Elastic Modulus</u> The seismic analyses will be revised to use a lower value of elastic modulus for reinforced concrete structures (all Category I structures except the primary containment structure). The new elastic modulus will be based on studies performed by Stone and Webster for the Watts Bar plant (<u>8</u>) which show that the effective concrete elastic modulus under seismic loading may be 0.5 to 0.75 times the modulus indicated by static laboratory tests. The elastic modulus for the post-tensioned primary containment structure will also be reevaluated, and an appropriate value will be selected for the new seismic analyses. For each structure, a single mean value for the concrete elastic modulus will be used for all seismic analyses. Effects due to variations in the modulus are accounted for by peak broadening of the floor response spectra.

<u>4 - Nuclear Steam Supply System (NSSS) - Structure Interaction</u> The Reactor Building seismic model (in particular the interior concrete structure) will be revised to include simplified models (mass and stiffness) of the major NSSS equipment.

5 - Vertical Mass The seismic building models will be revised to include the appropriate mass for generation of the vertical floor response spectra.

<u>6 - Number of Frequencies</u> The spectral accelerations for the new floor response spectra will be determined at 75 frequencies plus the significant structural frequencies in accordance with Regulatory Guide 1.122.

<u>7 - Peak Broadening</u> The peaks of the floor response spectra will be broadened \pm 10 percent in accordance with the FSAR (i.e., no change in the peak broadening is planned). Peak broadening accounts for uncertainties in the structural frequencies due to variations in the

-3-

material properties of the structure and soil, and approximations in the seismic building models. The technical justification for peak broadening the floor response spectra ± 10 percent includes the fact that all Category I structures are founded on rock. Thus, uncertainties in the foundation properties are minimal. This will be discussed further below.

<u>8 - Vertical Floor Flexibility</u> A floor flexibility study will be performed to determine the additional amplification of the vertical floor response spectra for "vertically flexible" floors. Dynamic models with flexible floor slabs coupled to the existing seismic building models will be used to generate the vertical flexible-floor response spectra. A family of curves will be generated for each damping value. The family of curves will be the floor response spectra at various mass ratios (i.e., the ratio of the mass of the equipment to the mass of the floor).

<u>Category I Structures</u> The impact of the new seismic loads on Category I structures will be evaluated in accordance with the following methodology.

2.

- a. The forces (axial and shear) and moments (bending and torsional) in the Category I structures will be determined based on the new seismic analyses (Set B loads) and will be compared with the forces and moments based on the original analyses (Set A loads). From this comparison, elevations of the buildings where the Set B loads exceed the Set A loads by more than 10 percent will be identified.
- b. For each elevation identified in Step a above, structural members most affected by the higher Set B loads will be selected for detailed evaluation. Considerations in selecting structural members for evaluation will include the following:
 - o Members with relatively little available margin, and major shear walls and columns supporting large floor slabs.
 - o Structural members in the principal directions (i.e., north-south and east-west directions) with the largest increase in loads.
 - o Exterior shear walls and interior walls, and columns farthest from the shear center of the building.
- c. For each structural member selected in Step b above, the factored loads (or stresses) will be calculated for the higher Set B loads. The calculated factored loads (or stresses) will be compared with the design allowable capacities (or stresses) and evaluated as follows:
 - o If the Set B factored loads (or stresses) are less than the design allowables, then the member will be considered adequate.
 - o If the Set B factored loads (or stresses) exceed the design allowables, then the factored loads (or stresses) of other similar load carrying members (e.g., members of the same type) at that elevation will also be calculated. All load carrying members for which the Set B loads cannot be shown to meet the design allowables will be dispositioned on a case-by-case basis.

d. The evaluation of Category I structures for the new seismic loads will be documented in calculations and cross-referenced to the original design calculations.

TECHNICAL JUSTIFICATION

The technical justification for TVA's approach to verifying the seismic design of Seismic Category I structures is as follows:

- 1. <u>New Seismic Analyses</u> The new seismic analyses (i.e., determining new seismic loads and generating new floor response spectra) will address the issues regarding the original analyses identified in Table 2. The planned resolutions of these issues are noted in Item 1 of the preceding section. The new seismic analyses will be in accordance with current NRC guidelines in Sections 3.7.1, 3.7.2, and 3.7.3 of the Standard Review Plan with the exception of peak broadening. The floor response spectra will be broadened ± 10 percent in accordance with the FSAR (Section 3.7.2.9). Regulatory Guide 1.122 recommends that floor response spectra be peak broadened ± 15 percent unless parametric studies are performed to justify a lower value. The justification for peak broadening the floor response spectra ±10 percent in accordance with the current licensing basis is as follows:
 - a. Peak broadening accounts for uncertainties in the structural frequencies due to variations in the material properties of the structure and soil, and approximations in the seismic building models. A major uncertainty in these analyses is the variation in the foundation properties for soil-founded structures. All Bellefonte Category I structures are founded on competent bedrock with a shear wave velocity of 10,000 fps. Thus, uncertainties in foundation properties for Bellefonte structures are much less than for structures founded on soil. No credit will be taken for rock-structure interaction. On this basis, peak broadening ± 15 percent is not considered necessary.
 - b. Peak broadening + 10 percent was accepted by the NRC for rock-founded structures at Browns Ferry (9) and for both rock-founded and soil-founded structures at Sequoyah (10).
 - c. Peak broadening ± 10 percent was specified by TVA in the application for a construction permit for BLN (Section 3.7.2.8 of the Preliminary Safety Analysis Report) and was approved by the NRC in Section 3.8 of its May 24, 1974 Safety Evaluation Report. Essentially all equipment and distribution systems (and their supports) have already been qualified to floor response spectra peak broadened + 10 percent.
 - d. In the Seismic Margins Assessment discussed in the Bellefonte Position Paper Regarding Seismic Design Ground Motion, the floor response spectra will be peak broadened ± 15 percent. This assessment will verify the capability of the Bellefonte plant to withstand earthquakes beyond the licensing basis earthquake.

2. <u>Category I Structures</u> The methodology for evaluating Category I structures will verify that the new seismic loads will not significantly affect the adequacy of Category I structures. Any structures which are found not to meet design allowables will be dispositioned on a case-by-case basis.

The approach outlined in this paper will provide reasonable assurance that the seismic design of Category I structures at BLN and the new floor response spectra are adequate.

REFERENCES

- 1. Bellefonte Position Paper Regarding Seismic Design Ground Motion, Enclosure to TVA Letter from E. G. Wallace to NRC dated February 14, 1991.
- NUREG-0800, Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants, LWR Edition, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Section 3.7.1, Revision 2, August 1989, Section 3.7.2, Revision 2, August 1989, Section 3.7.3, Revision 2, August 1989.
- 3. Regulatory Guide 1.61, Damping Values for Seismic Design of Nuclear Power Plants, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, October 1973.
- 4. Regulatory Guide 1.92, Combining Modal Responses and Spatial Components in Seismic Response Analysis, Revision 1, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, February 1976.
- Regulatory Guide 1.122, Development of Floor Design Response Spectra for Seismic Design of Floor-Supported Equipment or Components, Revision 1, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, February 1978.
- 6. Safety Evaluation of the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, May 24, 1974, Sections 3.8 and 3.9.
- Seismic Assessment Report Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Prepared by Bechtel North American Power Corporation for Tennessee Valley Authority, 1989, page 3-4.
- 8. Modulus of Elasticity Modification for Concrete Under Seismic Loading, Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation, September 25, 1989.
- NUREG-1232, Volume 3, Supplement 1, Safety Evaluation Report on Tennessee Valley Authority: Browns Ferry Nuclear Performance Plan, Browns Ferry Unit 2 Restart, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, page 2-8.
- NUREG-0011, Safety Evaluation Report Tennessee Valley Authority, Sequoyah Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, March 1979, page 3-12.

Table 1

BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT KEY SEISMIC ANALYSIS CRITERIA FOR CATEGORY I STRUCTURES

Attribute	Value
l. Design ground response spectrum	Reg. Guide 1.60 shape • SSE - 0.18g PGA • OBE - 0.09g PGA
2. Ratio of vertical to horizontal acceleration	Frequency (Hz) Ratio < 0.25
3. Foundation	All Category I structures are founded on rock (shear wave velocity equal to 10,000 fps).
4. Soil-structure interaction	Rock with spring constants from Whitman, 1966.
5. Analysis method	Time history modal analysis method and response spectra modal analysis method.
6. Structural models	Idealized 3-dimensional lumped mass models.
7. Damping	BuildingOBESSEReactor BuildingPrimary Containment25Secondary Containment47Interior Concrete47
	Other Category I Structures 4 7
8. Combination of modal responses	Square root of the sum of the squares (SRSS) with absolute sum of closely spaced modes.
9. Combination of spatial components	SRSS of three directions (N-S, E-W, and vertical).
10. Peak Broadening	<u>+</u> 10 Percent
11. Stability	Limiting values for sliding and overturning OBE 1.5 SSE 1.1
12. Structural Codes	Reinforced Concrete - ACI 318-71 (Ultimate Strength Design) Steel - AISC (1971) Post-Tensioned Concrete - ACI-359-73*

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*As Identified in FSAR Chapter 3

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Table 2

SUMMARY OF ISSUES WITH SEISMIC ANALYSES

	Issue	Description
1.	Integration time step.	The integration time step used in time-history analyses (0.01 sec) was larger than the value (0.005 sec) recommended in a seismic design assessment of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant by Bechtel ($\underline{7}$). This could affect the accuracy of the high frequency results.
2.	Modeling offsets.	In the dynamic building models, the offset between the center of mass and center of rigidity of the building was not modeled. This could affect the accuracy of the torsional response of the buildings. This effect would be greatest on unsymmetrical buildings (e.g., the Reactor Building).
3.	Concrete elastic modulus.	The concrete elastic modulus used in the seismic analyses $(5.0 \times 10^6 \text{ psi})$ was based on static tests performed by TVA for the particular 'fly ash' concrete used in TVA nuclear projects starting with Sequoyah. Results of these tests indicated that the measured elastic modulus at two years was higher than the ACI 318 Code value. However, subsequent studies performed in connection with Watts Bar show that the effective elastic modulus under dynamic loading conditions may be lower than that indicated by static tests. A lower concrete elastic modulus would result in lower calculated fundamental frequencies of the structures and tend to shift the peaks of the floor response spectra curves to a lower frequency range.
4.	NSSS-structure interaction.	The mass and stiffness of the NSSS equipment was not explicitly included in the seismic model of the interior concrete structure. This could possibly affect the calculated response of the NSSS.
5.	Vertical mass.	The mass used in the analyses to generate the vertical floor response spectra was less than the total mass of the buildings. This could affect the vertical floor response spectra.
6.	Number of frequencies.	The number of frequencies and frequency interval used to generate the floor response spectra (55 frequencies plus the significant structural frequencies) was not consistent with Regulatory Guide 1.122 (5) (75 frequencies plus the significant structural frequencies).

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Table 2

SUMMARY OF ISSUES WITH SEISMIC ANALYSES

Issue		Description	
7.	Peak broadening.	The peaks of the floor response spectra curves were broadened \pm 10 percent to account for uncertainties in the analyses. Regulatory Guide 1.122 (5) recommends that peaks be broadened \pm 15 percent, unless parametric studies are performed to justify a lower value.	
8.	Vertical floor flexibility.	In the generation of the floor response spectra, the floors were assumed to be rigid. Floor flexibility effects could result in additional amplification of the floor response spectra for "vertically flexible" floors. A floor is considered to be "vertically flexible" if the fundamental frequency of the slab is less than two times the dominant spectral peak.	

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Figure 2 PRIMARY CONTAINMENT

FIGURE 3.7.2-6





BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT FINAL SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT SECTIONAL ELEVATION OF AUXILIARY CONTROL BUILOING LUMPED MASS MODEL FOR DYNAMIC ANALYSIS FIGURE 3.7.2-9

Figure 4 AUXILIARY-CONTROL BUILDING



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Figure 6 MAIN STEAM VALVE ROOM B SECTION VIEW OF MAIN STEAM VALVE ROOM B FIGURE 3.7.2-20



BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT FINAL SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT

SECTIONAL ELEVATION OF ERCW PUMPING STATION ANO LUMPED MASS MODEL FOR DYNAMIC ANALYSIS FIGURE 3.7.2-11

Figure 7 INTAKE PUMPING STATION

