



Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market Street, LP 5A, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

April 25, 2011

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Bellefonte Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2
Construction Permit Nos. CPPR-122 and CPPR-123
NRC Docket Nos. 50-438 and 50-439

Subject: TVA Board Decision Approving the TVA Integrated Resource Plan

- References:
1. TVA Integrated Resource Plan, "TVA's Environmental and Energy Future," dated March 2011 <http://www.tva.com/environment/reports/irp/pdf/Final_IRP_complete.pdf>.
 2. Letter from TVA to NRC, "Bellefonte Nuclear Plant, Unit 1 - Request for Extension of Construction Permit CPPR-122," dated October 8, 2010 [ML102870233].

This letter is to inform the NRC that on April 14, 2011, TVA's Board of Directors determined that the recommended planning direction as set forth in TVA's recently completed Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), "TVA's *Environmental and Energy Future*" (Reference 1), is consistent with TVA's vision to be one of the Nation's leading providers of low-cost and cleaner energy by 2020. The Board also accepted the IRP and authorized TVA's Chief Executive Officer to use the recommended planning direction in formulating TVA's proposed resource planning and selection activities.

TVA's IRP supports TVA's comprehensive mission of service, which includes meeting the electric power needs of its customers in a reliable, affordable and sustainable manner by identifying the resources that will be needed to satisfy expected energy demand in the Tennessee Valley region over the next 20 years. The IRP and the associated Environmental Impact Statement are the result of extensive analysis and collaboration with TVA partners and stakeholders, including extensive opportunities for public input and participation of a Stakeholder Review Group.

An increased contribution of nuclear power generation is one of the primary components of the recommended planning direction identified in the IRP. Possible nuclear additions of up to three units within a guideline capacity range from 1,150-

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5,900 MW in the 2013-2029 timeframe are identified in the IRP's recommended planning direction, with completion of the already approved Watts Bar Unit 2 project representing the lower end of the range.

Nuclear expansion is present in the majority of the electrical generation portfolios considered in the IRP, with the first nuclear unit after Watts Bar Unit 2 being added between 2018 and 2020. The majority of the portfolios identify Bellefonte Nuclear Plant (BLN) Unit 1 as the potential generation resource that would be added to increase TVA's nuclear capacity in this timeframe. The IRP recommends, among other things, that TVA complete its project specific evaluation of B&W technology at the Bellefonte site.

It is important to note that the TVA Board's acceptance of the IRP and the recommended planning direction does not constitute or commit TVA to any particular decision on individual energy resource assets or projects, including the BLN project. However, the final results of the approved IRP are integral to any future decision to move forward with BLN Unit 1 completion activities, as noted in TVA's request for extension of BLN Unit 1 Construction Permit CPPR-122 (Reference 2).

No regulatory commitments are identified in this letter. If you have questions concerning this matter, please call Zackary W. Rad at (256) 574-8277.

Sincerely,



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Bellefonte Project

cc: See page 3

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Page 3
TVA Letter dated April 25, 2011

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