



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 7, 2011

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Corporate Manager, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
3R Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

**SUBJECT: WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 1 – FOLLOWUP TO ANTICIPATED
LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUESTS**

Dear Mr. Shea:

By letter dated October 31, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML11306A011), you responded to our September 9, 2011, letter (ADAMS No. ML11252A530) and provided a list of proposed license amendment requests (LARs) for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 1. Your letter also indicated your proposed schedule for the LAR submittals. Some of the LARs are in anticipation of WBN Unit 2 licensing and subsequent dual-unit operation.

By letter dated November 7, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML11307A396), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff stated our expectation that you will closely coordinate your proposed LARs for WBN Unit 1 with the WBN Unit 2 licensing efforts such that they do not affect NRC's safety evaluations of WBN Unit 2 that are currently in progress. The NRC staff stressed that it is imperative that the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) ensures that the proposed list of LARs is a complete list, no additional LARs are planned or necessary, and adhere to the indicated schedule for LAR submittals. The NRC staff also stated that this is necessary to ensure that the NRC staff can complete its review of WBN Unit 2 operating license application consistent with TVA's project schedule.

On December 6, 2011, the NRC staff learned, during a conference call with G. Arent, C. Riedl, et. al. (TVA), that TVA may need a LAR to change the probable maximum flood (PMF) level in the WBN Unit 1 Updated Final Safety Evaluation Report (UFSAR) from 734.9 feet to 738.8 feet.

Staff Requirements Memorandum dated July 25, 2007, regarding SECY-07-0096, "Possible Reactivation of Construction and Licensing Activities for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2," states:

The Commission supports a licensing review approach that employs the current licensing basis for Unit 1 as the reference basis for the review and licensing of Unit 2.

J. Shea

- 2 -

Therefore, TVA's project schedule for WBN Unit 2 may be adversely impacted if WBN Unit 1 submits an untimely LAR regarding the PMF.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John G. Lamb". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

John G. Lamb, Senior Project Manager
Watts Bar Special Projects Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-390

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J. Shea

- 2 -

Therefore, TVA's project schedule for WBN Unit 2 may be adversely impacted if WBN Unit 1 submits an untimely LAR regarding the PMF.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3100.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John G. Lamb, Senior Project Manager
Watts Bar Special Projects Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Accession No. ML11341A017

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NAME	JLamb	BClayton	SCampbell (FLyon for)
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