



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

November 30, 2012

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
3R Lookout Place
1101 Market Street, LP 3D-C
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - REQUEST FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING LICENSE RENEWAL ONE-TIME
INSPECTION PROCEDURE (TAC NOS. ME7797, ME7798, AND ME7799)

Dear Mr. Shea:

By letter dated November 1, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML11308A018), the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3, "One-Time Inspection Procedure," O-TI-565, Revision 3, consistent with a commitment made in a letter from TVA dated April 21, 2006 (ML061140322).

Based on our review of your submittal, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff finds that a response to the enclosed request for additional information is needed before we can complete the review.

A draft copy of the enclosed information request was e-mailed to TVA on October 10, 2012. This request was discussed with Mr. Tom Hess of your staff on November 19, 2012, wherein it was agreed that a call clarifying the information request was not needed. TVA agreed to respond to the request for information within 60 days of issuance of this letter.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-2315.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Eva A. Brown, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ONE-TIME INSPECTION PROCEDURE

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3

DOCKET NO 50-259, 50-260, AND 50-296

1. The enclosure to the letter dated November 1, 2011 (the submittal), contains the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant One-Time Inspection Procedure, O-TI-565, Revision 3. The procedure states in Section 7.2, that the Program Owner shall organize all materials of construction and environments into inspection groups such that those material and environment combination groups become the basis for the population size for that inspection group. The sample size for each inspection group is 20 percent of the population with a maximum of 25 inspections per inspection group. In Section 7.2 of the enclosure it states that potential inspection points shall be selected using the criteria for susceptibility to the aging effects. The procedure bases the number of inspections required on the number of components in the inspection group, where the inspection group is based on the material and environment combinations. A single inspection group includes components with different aging effects. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff notes that the procedure does not discuss how to determine the number of inspections performed for each of the different aging effects within the inspection group.

State the basis for the number of inspections that will be performed for each aging effect within each inspection group and discuss how the chosen number of inspections is sufficient to identify whether an aging effect is occurring.

2. The procedure includes inspection of elastomer components exposed to air/gas or fuel oil for elastomer degradation using the method described in Appendix B of the procedure. This appendix includes directions for performing visual examination methods (VT-1 and VT-3), and discusses the uses of other inspection methods at the discretion of the Program Owner, such as ultrasonic, radiographic, magnetic particle, or performance testing. The NRC staff notes that the procedure does not discuss the examination method or acceptance criteria that will be used to identify elastomer degradation.

Describe the method and associated acceptance criteria that will be used to identify elastomer degradation. In the discussion if tactile examinations will not be performed, address why examinations will not be used.

Enclosure

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