



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Decatur, Alabama 35609-2000

September 12, 2013

10 CFR 21.21

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

Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit 3
Facility Operating License No. DPR-68
NRC Docket No. 50-296

Subject: **10 CFR Part 21 Interim Report - General Electric (GE) Hitachi
Nuclear Energy - SBM Type Manual Switch**

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) recently identified that the manual hand switch for Residual Heat Removal (RHR) System I Suppression Pool Isolation Valve, failed to operate as expected (i.e., spring return to center). Additionally, it was identified that a new hand switch, which was procured as a replacement, also had the same failure. Corrective Action Program documents were written to document the failure of the SBM Type Manual Switches and to require performance of an engineering evaluation of the condition. It was concluded that this condition has the potential to constitute a reportable condition pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 21, "Reporting of Defects and Noncompliance," and as such, requires additional evaluation.

The TVA is working with GE Hitachi (GEH) to determine the cause of failure of the SBM Manual Switches. At this time, GEH has not determined that a defect exists. If GEH determines that a defect exists, they will perform a 10 CFR Part 21 evaluation within 60 days of their determination. The enclosure to this letter provides information required by 10 CFR Part 21.21(a)(2) for the interim report of this condition.

There are no new regulatory commitments contained in this letter. Should you have any questions concerning this submittal, please contact J. E. Emens, Jr., Nuclear Site Licensing Manager, at (256) 729-2636.

Respectfully,

K. J. Polson
Vice President

IE19
NRR

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Enclosure: 10 CFR Part 21 Interim Report - General Electric (GE) Hitachi Nuclear
Energy - SBM Type Manual Switch

cc (w/ Enclosure):

NRC Regional Administrator - Region II
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

Enclosure

**Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant,
Unit 3**

**10 CFR Part 21 Interim Report
General Electric (GE) Hitachi Nuclear Energy -
SBM Type Manual Switch**

10 CFR Part 21 Interim Report - General Electric (GE) Hitachi Nuclear Energy - SBM Type Manual Switch

Name and Address of the Individual Making the Interim Report

Mr. K. J. Polson
Vice President
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Post Office Box 2000
Decatur, Alabama 35609-2000

Identification of the facility, the activity, or basic component supplied for such facility or such activity within the United States which fails to comply or contains a defect (under evaluation)

On July 14, 2013, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) identified that the manual hand switch for the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) System I Suppression Pool Isolation Valve, at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant failed to operate as expected (i.e., spring return to center). Additionally, it was identified that a new hand switch, which was procured as a replacement, also had the same failure.

Identification of the firm constructing the facility or supplying the basic component which fails to comply or contains a defect (under evaluation)

GE - HITACHI Nuclear Energy
3901 Castle Hayne Rd
Wilmington, NC 28401

Description of the Deviation or Failure to Comply that is being Evaluated

Hand switch for the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) System I Suppression Pool Isolation Valve was replaced, but failed the post maintenance testing because the manual switch failed to operate as expected (i.e., spring return to center). A new manual switch was ordered, but upon inspection, it was determined to have the same failure.

Evaluation Status

The manual switches are being returned to GE Hitachi (GEH) to determine if a defect exists. If the switches are determined to be defective, GEH will perform a 10 CFR Part 21 evaluation.

Date on which Evaluation will be Completed

If GEH determines that the manual switches are defective, they will perform a 10 CFR Part 21 evaluation within 60 days of their determination.