



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

CNL-16-027

February 29, 2016

10 CFR 50.4  
10 CFR 50.55a

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

Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Unit 2  
Facility Operating License No. NPF-96  
NRC Docket No. 50-391

Subject: **Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2 - Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding Request for Relief ISPT-02 (CAC No. MF7038)**

Reference: 1. TVA Letter to NRC, CNL-15-057, "Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2 - Request for Relief for Reactor Pressure Vessel Flange Seal Leak-Off Piping," dated October 30, 2015 (ML15303A546)

2. NRC Electronic Mail to TVA, "Watts Bar Unit 2 Request for Additional Information on Relief Request ISPT-02 (CAC No. MF7038)," dated February 1, 2016

On October 30, 2015, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted a request for relief, ISPT-02, to the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel (B&PV) Code, Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components," for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 2 for nominal pipe size (NPS) 1, 3/4, and 3/8 inch reactor pressure vessel (RPV) flange seal leak-off piping (Reference 1). On February 1, 2016, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) provided a Request for Additional Information (RAI) regarding TVA's relief request ISPT-02 (Reference 2) and requested a response by March 2, 2016.

The enclosure to this letter provides TVA's response to the RAI.

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There are no regulatory commitments associated with this submittal. Please address any questions regarding this response to Mr. Gordon Arent at 423-365-2004.

Respectfully,

**J. W. Shea**  
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J. W. Shea  
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing

Enclosure: Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding Relief Request  
ISPT-02

cc (Enclosure):

NRC Regional Administrator - Region II  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Watts Bar Nuclear Plant  
NRR Project Manager - Watts Bar Nuclear Plant

**ENCLOSURE**

**RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
REGARDING RELIEF REQUEST ISPT-02**

**TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY  
WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 2  
DOCKET NO. 50-391**

*“By letter dated October 30, 2015, Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15303A546 Cost Activity Code (CAC) Number MF7038, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), the licensee, requested approval of alternative testing associated with the inservice inspection (ISI) program first 10-year interval for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) Unit 2. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing the submittal and has the following question:*

*Request ISPT-02:*

- 1) What is the proposed test pressure (i.e., the numerical value of the static head pressure developed from the water level above the reactor pressure vessel flange when the reactor cavity is flooded) for the proposed system leakage testing of the subject leak-off piping?”*

TVA Response:

The taps in the vessel flange are located at elevation 723 feet 6-5/8 inches . Normal water level for refueling operations is between elevation 749 feet 1-1/2 inches to 749 feet 6-1/2 inches per plant operating procedures 2-GO-7, “Refueling Operations,” and 2-GO-10, “Reactor Coolant System Drain and Fill Operations.” This provides a static head of about 25.5 feet or a proposed test pressure of 11 pounds per square inch gauge.