

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

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December 31, 1979

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II - Suite 3100  
101 Marietta Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

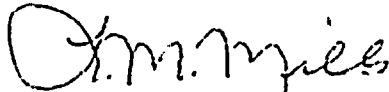
Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Enclosed is our response to J. T. Sutherland's December 6, 1979, letter, RII:LLJ 50-259/79-41, 50-260/79-41, and 50-296/79-41, concerning activities at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant which appeared to be in noncompliance with NRC requirements.

We have reviewed the above inspection report and find no proprietary information in it. If you have any questions, please call Jim Domer at FTS 854-2014.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



L. M. Mills, Manager  
Nuclear Regulation and Safety

Enclosure



ENCLOSURE

RESPONSE TO J. T. SUTHERLAND'S LETTER DATED  
DECEMBER 6, 1979, REFERENCE: RII:LLJ  
50-259/79-41, 50-260/79-41, 50-296/79-41

INFRACTION

- A. As required by 10 CFR 20.203(f)(1) and (2) each container of licensed material containing quantities greater than those listed in Appendix C of 10 CFR 20 shall bear a durable, clearly visible label identifying the radioactive contents and shall bear the radiation caution symbol and the words "CAUTION, RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL" or "DANGER RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL". It shall also provide sufficient information to permit individuals handling or using the containers, or working in the vicinity thereof to take precautions to avoid or minimize exposures. 10 CFR 20.203(f)(3) specifies exceptions to the labeling requirements of 10 CFR 20.203(f)(1) and (2).

Contrary to the above, on November 13, 1979, the licensee had not labeled, with the appropriate warnings and information, several containers of radioactive material located in the Unit 2 and 3 Turbine Buildings. Assuming typical activation products and based on measured radiation levels, the inspector estimated the containers contained activities in excess of Appendix C quantities. The exceptions specified by 10 CFR 20.203(f)(3) did not apply.

This is a deficiency. A similar item was brought to your attention in our letter dated March 30, 1979.

RESPONSE

Corrective Steps Which Have Been Taken And Results Achieved

Immediate action was taken to label the plywood containers in the Turbine Building in accordance with 10 CFR 20.203(f)(1) and (2). Both responsible craft foremen and engineering personnel were informed of the item of non-compliance. The proper handling and transport of all material leaving contaminate zone areas was discussed.



Corrective Steps Taken To Avoid Further Noncompliance

A training class will be added to the training program for the responsible section to include the proper procedures to be followed when removing material from contaminated zones. This training will be incorporated into the training program on a periodic basis not to exceed once every six months. Radiological Control Instruction One specifies the procedures for handling, control, and proper labeling of radioactive material.

Date Full Compliance Achieved

The identified boxes were properly labeled immediately after identification.

