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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

December 19, 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

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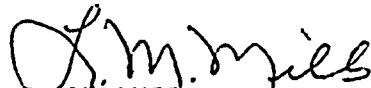
Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Enclosed is our response to R. C. Lewis' November 27, 1979, letter, RII:CJ 50-259/79-36, 50-260/79-36, and 50-296/79-36, 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.

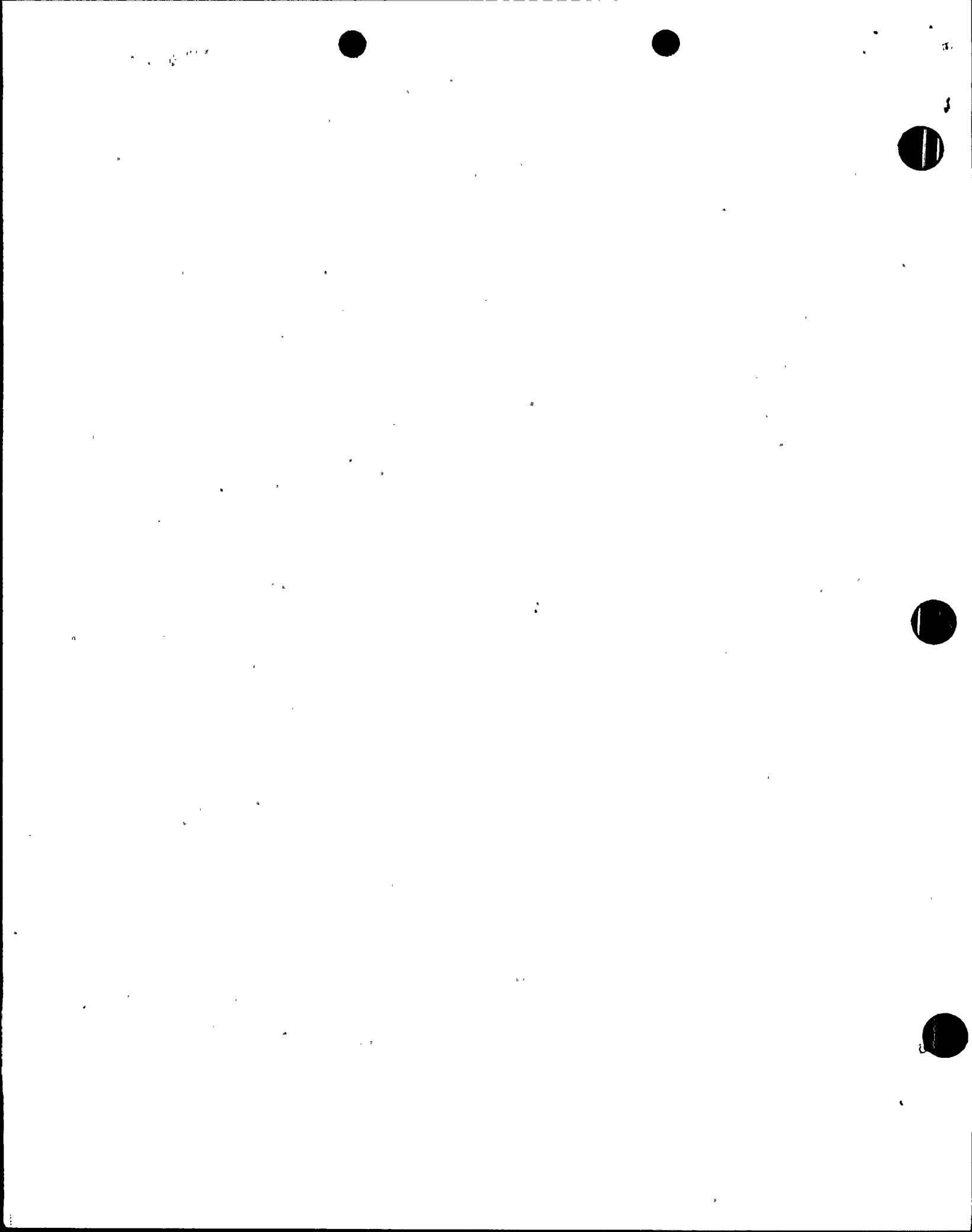
Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



L. M. Mills, Manager
Nuclear Regulation and Safety

Enclosure



ENCLOSURE

RESPONSE TO R. C. LEWIS' NOVEMBER 27, 1979,
LETTER TO H. G. PARRIS
BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT
REFERENCE: RII:CJ 50-259/79-36, -260/79-36, -296/79-36

INFRACTION

As required by Technical Specification 3.10.A.1, the reactor mode switch shall be locked in the "Refuel" position during core alterations.

Contrary to the above, during core alterations on November 9, 1979, the reactor mode switch was observed to be in the "refuel" position but the key was left inserted in the lock, thus allowing the capability of manipulating the switch without authorization.

This is an infraction.

RESPONSE

Corrective Steps Taken and Results Achieved

The key was removed from the reactor mode switch and the operators informed that the switch was not considered to be locked with the key inserted.

Corrective Steps Taken To Avoid Further Noncompliance

Operating instructions have been revised to require the reactor mode switch be locked in "Refuel" position with the key removed before core alterations. Information labels are being placed on the control board beside the mode switch to remind the operator to remove the key when in "Refuel" position. The item of noncompliance will be emphasized in group supplementary training for all operating groups.

Date Full Compliance Will Be Achieved

The key was removed from unit 3 reactor mode switch on November 9, 1979. The operating instruction, GOI 100-3 was revised to include removing the key on November 27, 1979. The subject will be covered in group supplemental training by March 3, 1980. Full compliance will be achieved by March 4, 1980.

