

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
101 MARIETTA ST., N.W., SUITE 3100
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
MAR 18 1981

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: H. G. Parris
Manager of Power
500A Chestnut Street Tower II
Chattanooga, TN 37401

Gentlemen:

Subject: Report Nos. 50-259/81-02, 50-260/81-02 and 50-296/81-02

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by G. A. Belisle and others of this office on January 26-30 and February 2-6, 1981, of activities authorized by NRC Operating License Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52 and DPR-68 for the Browns Ferry facility. Our preliminary findings were discussed with H. L. Abercrombie and J. A. Coffey at the conclusion of the inspection.

This inspection was a comprehensive examination of your management and quality assurance controls related to licensed activities. Inspection was conducted in selected key areas of responsibility at both the plant site and your authority offices. Areas examined during the inspection and our findings are discussed in the enclosed inspection report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspectors.

During the inspection, it was found that certain activities under your license appear to violate NRC requirements. These items and references to pertinent requirements are listed in the Notice of Violation enclosed herewith as Appendix A. Elements to be included in your response are delineated in Appendix A.

During the inspection it was found that certain activities under your license appear to deviate from commitments to the Commission in response to two Notices of Violation and have safety significance. These items are identified in the Notice of Deviation enclosed herewith as Appendix B. Similar problems have been identified during recent inspections of other TVA activities. Our concerns regarding these problems were discussed during an enforcement conference conducted in this office on February 11, 1981. As discussed during that meeting, the new NRC enforcement policy requires submitting responses under oath or affirmation and deviations from NRC commitments take on a new dimension. A reply to the deviations identified during this inspection is not requested. We will consider your reply to my letter dated February 19, 1981 on a previous Browns Ferry inspection in our evaluation of this matter.

In addition to the need for corrective action regarding these specific violations, we are concerned about the implementation of your quality assurance program that permitted their occurrence. Consequently, in your reply, you should describe in particular those actions taken or planned to improve the effectiveness of your quality assurance program.



Tennessee Valley Authority

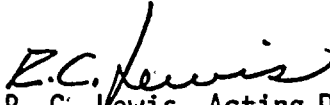
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We have examined actions you have taken with regard to previously identified enforcement matters and unresolved items. The status of these items is discussed in the enclosed report.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10; Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. If this report contains any information that you believe to be proprietary, it is necessary that you make a written application within 20 days to this office to withhold such information from public disclosure. Any such application must include the basis for claiming that the information is proprietary and the proprietary information should be contained in a separate part of the document. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified period, the report will be placed in the Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, we will be glad to discuss them with you.

Sincerely


R. C. Lewis, Acting Director
Division of Resident and
Reactor Project Inspection

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B, Notice of Deviation
3. Inspection Report Nos. 50-259/81-02,
50-260/81-02 and 50-296/81-02.

cc w/encl:

H. L. Abercrombie, Plant Superintendent
R. E. Rogers, Project Engineer
H. N. Culver, Chief, Nuclear Safety
Review Staff
H. J. Green, Division Director

