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SUBJECT: Responds to request for addl info re high drywell temp per response to Generic Ltr 84-23, "Reactor Vessel Water Level Instrumentation in BWRs." Evaluation of cost & feasibility of mod to ref legs inside drywell underway.

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NOTES: NMSS/FCAF 1cy. 1cy NMSS/FCAF/PM. 05000259
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Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

July 15, 1985

cc (Enclosure):

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ENCLOSURE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING HIGH DRYWELL TEMPERATURE

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT
(REFERENCE: GENERIC LETTER 84-23)

High Drywell Temperature - TVA is evaluating the cost and feasibility of minimizing the vertical drops of the reference legs inside the drywell to one to two feet by bringing the reference legs outside the drywell at a higher elevation using existing penetrations. This modification is described in Section 6.1.2 of the S. Levy, Inc., report 8211, Review of BWR Reactor Vessel Water Level Measurement Systems. NRC review of this report was acknowledged in Generic Letter 84-23. This solution to the high drywell temperature issue appears to be the best and most cost effective provided the existing drywell penetrations can be used. We are still in the process of ensuring that this modification is feasible, and that implementation will not involve an unreviewed safety question.

Since the evaluation of this design change is not yet complete, we cannot firmly commit to a particular modification or a completion date. We will submit an updated response by October 15, 1985.