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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37902

JUN 16 1988

Mr. Charles Horn, Director Water Division Alabama Department of Environmental Management 1751 Federal Drive Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Mr. Horn:

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - NPDES NO. AL0022080 - NOTIFICATION OF UNPERMITTED DISCHARGE

A leak of sodium nitrite from the BFN unit 1 and 2 control bay chillers was identified on April 4. Chemistry personnel initiated chemical treatment of the chillers on March 31 by adding 5 pound increments of reagent grade sodium nitrite to the system. This addition is made until a concentration of greater than 500 mg/l nitrite is obtained in the system. A leak was suspected when chemistry personnel were unable to sustain the desired nitrite concentration and the chemical addition was then terminated on April 4. Immediate steps were taken to identify the location of the leak and the chillers were subsequently repaired.

The sodium nitrite entered the Tennessee River via the office building drain and discharge serial number 110. The quantity of sodium nitrite discharged was less than 25 pounds, and the estimated concentration at the diffuser discharge was less than 0.1 parts per million.

If your staff has any questions on this matter, please have them contact Madonna E. Martin at (615) 632-6695 in Knoxville.

Sincerely Brooks. Director Environmental Quality

cc: Mr. K. P. Barr, Acting Assistant Director for Inspection Programs TVA Projects Division U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region II 101 Marietta Street, NW., Suite 2900 Atlanta, Georgia 30323

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

Mr. Charles Horn

cc: Mr. Bruce R. Barrett, Director Water Management Division U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV 345 Courtland Street, NE Atlanta, Georgia 30365

> <u>U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission</u> Attention: Document Control Desk Washington, D.C. 20555

> Mr. G. G. Zech, Assistant Director for Projects
> TVA Projects Division
> U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
> One White Flint, North
> 11555 Rockville Pike
> Rockville, Maryland 20852