Docket

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

October 26, 1989

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260,
and 50-296

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
Senior Vice President, Nuclear Power
Tennessee Valley Authority
6N 38A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 REQUESTS FOR RELIEF ISI-4, ISI-5 AND ISI-8 FROM INSERVICE INSPECTION (VOLUMETRIC) REQUIREMENTS (TAC 00234, 00235, 00236)

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in a letter dated June 4, 1987, submitted revised requests for relief from the Inservice Inspection (ISI) program. The reliefs requested, ISI-4, ISI-5, and ISI-8, were to grant relief from certain American Society for Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Code, Section XI inservice volumetric inspection requirements for Class 1 and Class 2 piping system welds in Browns Ferry, Units 1, 2, and 3. The original proposed Inservice Inspection Program description and requests for relief from inspection requirements were submitted by TVA letter dated October 20, 1976. Request for relief ISI-8 was approved by an NRC Safety Evaluation Report issued August 30, 1983. Requests for relief ISI-4 and ISI-5 were not granted. The visual inspections of the surfaces of concern were to be inspected when the pumps or valves involved were disassembled for maintenance during the interval, and if this did not occur, TVA should then generate requests for relief for the specific components, or groups of components which had not been inspected.

TVA provided additional information for ISI-4 in a letter dated August 29, 1988, as well as a revised relief request for ISI-8 in a letter dated September 28, 1988.

The requests for relief are the following: ISI-4 concerns postponing visual inspection of the inside surfaces of reactor recirculation pumps since the pumps had not been opened for maintenance, ISI-5 concerns postponing visual inspection of inside surfaces of specific valves since these valves were not opened for maintenance, and relief request ISI-8 concerns relief from 100% of Code required volumetric examinations of welds because of geometric configuration limitations. This revision of ISI-8 concerns welds in Browns Ferry Unit 2 (BFN2) only.

The staff has reviewed the requests for relief ISI-4, ISI-5 and ISI-8 and finds that they are acceptable with the inclusion of alternative requirements. The basis for our conclusions is provided in the enclosed Safety Evaluation (SE). The staff concludes that for ISI-4, ISI-5 and ISI-8, the Code testing requirements are impractical pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i). The NRC has imposed

AHA-3

8911020174 891026
PDR ADOCK 05000259
Q PDC

DF01
1/1

alternative requirements to ISI-4 to provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. For ISI-5 and ISI-8, the TVA proposed alternatives to the described requirements are acceptable and will provide an acceptable level of quality and safety.

The staff also concludes that: granting relief where the Code requirements are impractical, with the alternative requirements imposed, is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property, or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest considering the burden that could result upon TVA if the Code requirements were imposed. Accordingly, we grant the requested reliefs, ISI-4 with the NRC imposed alternative requirements specified in the attached SE and ISI-5 and ISI-8 based upon TVA incorporating the alternate testing requirements specified in the TVA submittals cited above into the appropriate TVA Surveillance Instruction prior to the restart of Browns Ferry Unit 2.

Sincerely,

FJHebdon Jr-for

Suzanne Black, Assistant Director
for Projects
TVA Projects Division
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Distribution
Docket File
NRC PDR
Local PDR
ADSP Reading
D. Crutchfield
B. D. Liaw
S. Black
R. Pierson
D. Terao
W. S. Little
G. Gears
D. Moran
T. Daniels
N. Markisohn
OGC
T. Quay
B. Grimes
E. Jordan
ACRS(10)
GPA/CA
BFN Rdg. File
D. E. Smith
G. Johnson
B. Wilson
LA

*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

OFC	NRR:TVA/PM*	NRR:TVA/PM*	OGC*	TVA:AD/TP	TVA:AD/P		
NAME	:DMoran:as	DSmith		RPierson	SBlack FJH-for		
DATE	10/04/89	10/04/89	9/18/89	10/23/89	10/26/89		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

alternative requirements to ISI-4 to provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. For ISI-5 and ISI-8, the TVA proposed alternatives to the described requirements are acceptable and will provide an acceptable level of quality and safety.

The staff also concludes that: granting relief where the Code requirements are impractical, with the alternative requirements imposed, is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property, or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest considering the burden that could result upon TVA if the Code requirements were imposed. Accordingly, we grant the requested reliefs, ISI-4 with the NRC imposed alternative requirements specified in the attached SE and ISI-5 and ISI-8 based upon TVA incorporating the alternate testing requirements specified in the TVA submittals cited above into the appropriate TVA Surveillance Instruction prior to the restart of Browns Ferry Unit 2.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Black, Assistant Director
for Projects
TVA Projects Division
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Distribution
Docket File
NRC PDR
Local PDR
ADSP Reading
D. Crutchfield
B. D. Liaw
S. Black
R. Pierson
D. Terao
W. S. Little
G. Gears
D. Moran
T. Daniels
N. Markisohn
OGC
T. Quay
B. Grimes
E. Jordan
ACRS(10)
GPA/CA
BFN Rdg. File
D. E. Smith
G. Johnson
B. Wilson

*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

OFC	NRR:TVA/PM	NRR:TVA/PM	OGC*	TVA:AD/TP	TVA:AD/P		
NAME	DMoran:as	DSmith		RPierson	SBlack		
DATE	10/04/89	10/06/89	9/18/89	10/10/89	10/ /89		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

alternative requirements to ISI-4 to provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. For ISI-5 and ISI-8, the TVA proposed alternatives to the described requirements are acceptable and will provide an acceptable level of quality and safety.

The staff also concludes that: 1) granting relief where the Code requirements are impractical, and 2) alternative requirements may be imposed, is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property, or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest considering the burden that could result upon TVA if the Code requirements were imposed. Accordingly, we grant the requested reliefs ISI-4 with the NRC imposed alternative requirements specified in the attached SE and ISI-5 and ISI-8 based upon TVA incorporating the alternate testing requirements specified in the TVA submittals cited above into the appropriate TVA Surveillance Instruction prior to the restart of Browns Ferry Unit 2.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Black, Assistant Director
for Projects
TVA Projects Division
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Distribution
Docket File
NRC PDR
Local PDR
ADSP Reading
D. Crutchfield
B. D. Liaw
S. Black
R. Pierson
D. Terao
W. S. Little
G. Gears
D. Moran
T. Daniels
N. Markisohn
OGC
T. Quay
B. Grimes
E. Jordan
ACRS(10)
GPA/CA
BFN Rdg. File
D. E. Smith
G. Johnson
B. Wilson

w/ noted revisions

OFC	NRR:TVA/PM	NRR:TVA/PM	OGC	TVA:AD/TP	TVA:AD/P		
NAME	DMoran:as	DSmith	MYoung	RPierson	SBlack		
DATE	9/13/89	9/13/89	9/18/89	10/ /89	10/ /89		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

cc:
General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
400 West Summit Hill Drive
ET 11B 33H
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. F. L. Moreadith
Vice President, Nuclear Engineering
Tennessee Valley Authority
400 West Summit Hill Drive
WT 12A 12A
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Dr. Mark O. Medford
Vice President and Nuclear
Technical Director
Tennessee Valley Authority
6N 38A Lookout Place
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Manager, Nuclear Licensing
and Regulatory Affairs
Tennessee Valley Authority
5N 157B Lookout Place
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Mr. O. J. Zeringue
Site Director
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 2000
Decatur, Alabama 35602

Mr. P. Carier
Site Licensing Manager
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 2000
Decatur, Alabama 35602

Mr. G. Campbell
Plant Manager
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 2000
Decatur, Alabama 35602

Chairman, Limestone County Commission
P. O. Box 188
Athens, Alabama 35611

Claude Earl Fox, M.D.
State Health Officer
State Department of Public Health
State Office Building
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Regional Administrator, Region II
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
101 Marietta Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Mr. Danny Carpenter
Senior Resident Inspector
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Route 12, Box 637
Athens, Alabama 35611

Dr. Henry Myers, Science Advisor
Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Tennessee Valley Authority
Rockville Office
11921 Rockville Pike
Suite 402
Rockville, Maryland 20852