



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

ENCLOSURE 4

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 191 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-33

AMENDMENT NO. 206 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-52

AMENDMENT NO. 163 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-68

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3

DOCKET NOS. 50-259, 50-260, AND 50-296

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated September 28, 1992, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted a request for changes to the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN), Units 1, 2, and 3 Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would relocate the list of additional inspections required to be performed on certain circumferential pipe welds from TS 4.6.G to plant procedures. Guidance on these proposed changes was provided to all holders of operating licenses or construction permits for nuclear power reactors by Generic Letter (GL) 91-08, "Removal of Component Lists From Technical Specification," dated May 6, 1991. By relocating the lists of pipe welds from TS to plant procedures, any subsequent changes to these particular component lists would be controlled pursuant to provisions of 10 CFR 50.59 and TS Section 6, "Administrative Controls."

2.0 EVALUATION

Tennessee Valley Authority proposed to remove the lists of certain circumferential pipe welds which required additional inspections, from Units 1, 2, and 3 TS Section 4.6.G.2. The contents of these lists will be incorporated into the applicable TVA program and procedures, which are subject to the administrative controls prescribed in Section 6.8, "Procedural/Instructions and Programs," of the BFN TS. As is required by GL 91-08, proposed TS Section 4.6.G.2 contains an appropriate description of the scope of the components to which the TS requirements apply.

The BASES for TS Section 3.6.G/4.6.G provides a more specific description of the type of pipe welds that are listed. Proposed changes to the BASES states that the list of circumferential pipe welds to be inspected is in plant procedures. Furthermore, at the request of NRC staff, TVA submitted additional information by letter dated February 22, 1993, regarding the technical basis for selecting and inspecting these welds.

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After reviewing TVA's amendment application, the staff concludes that the proposed TS changes for BFN, Units 1, 2, and 3, are primarily administrative in nature and conform with the guidance of GL 91-08 and are therefore acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Alabama State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

These amendments change a requirement with respect to installation or use and surveillance of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (57 FR 55592). Accordingly, these amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Date: March 18, 1993