



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 230 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-33

AMENDMENT NO. 245 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-52

AMENDMENT NO. 205 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 May 20, 1996, the Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) requested amendments of the technical specifications (TS) for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) Units 1, 2, and 3. The proposed amendments incorporate the guidance of Generic Letter (GL) 87-09 to permit a delay of 24-hours in implementing action requirements due to a missed TS surveillance.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS CHANGES

The licensee proposes to revise BFN Unit 1, 2, and 3 TS definition 1.0.LL, "Surveillance," by adding the following guidance:

If it is discovered that a surveillance was not performed within its specified frequency, then compliance with the requirement to declare the LCO not met may be delayed, from the time of discovery, up to 24 hours or up to the limit of the specified frequency, whichever is less. This delay period is permitted to allow performance of the surveillance.

If the surveillance is not performed within the delay period, the LCO must immediately be declared not met, and the applicable condition(s) must be entered.

When the surveillance is performed within the delay period and the surveillance is not met, the LCO must immediately be declared not met, and the applicable condition(s) must be entered.

Enclosure 4

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### 3.0 EVALUATION

GL 87-09 provides guidance on applicability of TS action requirements when surveillance intervals are inadvertently exceeded. GL 87-09 states:

It is overly conservative to assume that systems or components are inoperable when a surveillance has not been performed because the vast majority of surveillances do in fact demonstrate that systems or components are operable. When a surveillance is missed, it is primarily a question of operability that has not been verified by the performance of a Surveillance Requirement. Because the allowable outage time limits of some Action Requirements do not provide an appropriate time for performing a missed surveillance before Shutdown Requirements apply, the TS should include a time limit that allows a delay of required actions to permit the performance of the missed surveillance.... The staff has concluded that 24 hours is an acceptable time limit for completing a missed surveillance when the allowable outage times of the Action Requirements are less than this limit....

This guidance was also included in NUREG-1433, Revision 1, "Standard Technical Specifications, General Electric Plants, BWR/4." The changes proposed by the licensee incorporate the 24-hour grace period into the BFN TS.

The staff finds that the proposed changes are consistent with the regulatory guidance of GL 87-09. Therefore, the proposed changes are acceptable.

### 4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

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

### 5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change the surveillance requirements. 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 (61 FR 31185). Accordingly, the 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.

### 6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based upon the considerations discussed above, that: (1) the amendment does not (a) significantly increase the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated, (b) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any previously evaluated, or

(c) significantly reduce a margin of safety, and therefore, the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration; (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner; (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations; and (4) issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Dated: August 5, 1986



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**BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT**

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