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SUBJECT: Responds to RAI re plans for evaluation of indications at core spray sys piping collar-to-shroud weld.

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Christopher M. (Chris) Crane
Vice President, Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

March 10, 1997

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of) Docket No. 50-296
Tennessee Valley Authority)

**BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - UNIT 3 - REACTOR PRESSURE
VESSEL INTERNALS, AUGMENTED WELD INSPECTION - SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION FOR EVALUATION OF INDICATIONS AT THE CORE SPRAY
SYSTEM PIPING COLLAR-TO-SHROUD WELD**

On March 10, 1997, the staff raised additional questions regarding TVA plans for further inspection of the P4D weld on the Unit 3 Core Spray C downcomer which could not be ultrasonically tested.

TVA will present the issues raised by the staff regarding the indications at the subject weld location to the BWR Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP) Committee. TVA will work with the BWRVIP Committee to develop an inspection methodology and criteria for repair of the subject weld. This methodology will be used during the Unit 3 cycle 8 outage to inspect the weld, evaluate structural integrity, and determine corrective actions. TVA will notify the staff of any changes to this plan.

The plan for inspection of the P4D weld will be submitted 120 days prior to the start of the Unit 3 cycle 8 outage currently scheduled for October 1998.

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If you have any questions regarding this information please
call me at (205) 729-3675.

Sincerely,



C. M. Crane

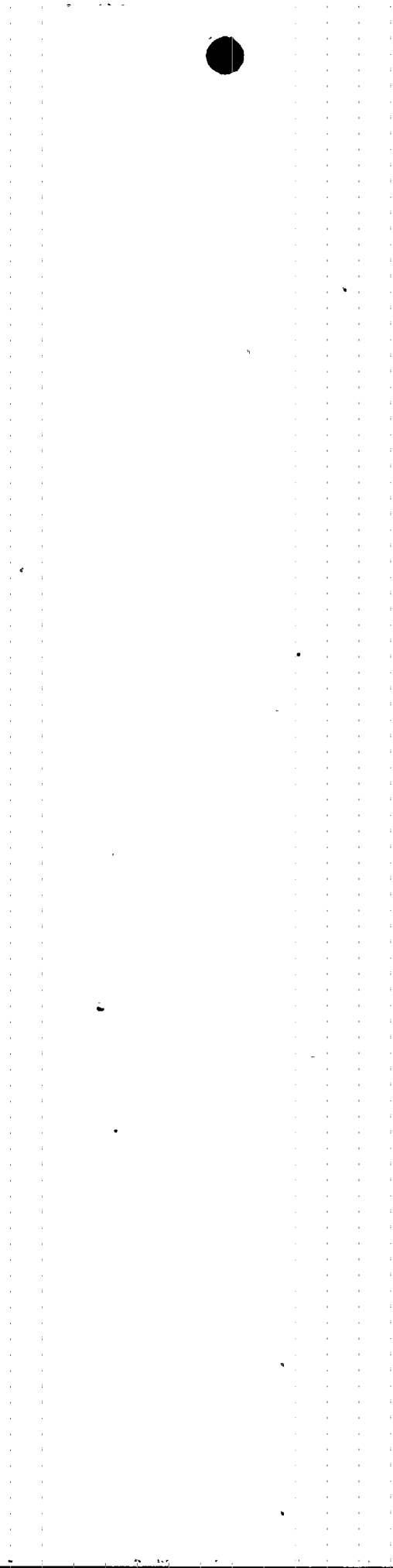
Enclosure

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ENCLOSURE

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN)
UNIT 3
CORE SPRAY SYSTEM, AUGMENTED WELD INSPECTION

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR EVALUATION OF INDICATIONS AT THE
COLLAR-TO-SHROUD WELD

1. TVA will work with the BWRVIP Committee to develop an inspection methodology and criteria for repair of the subject weld.
2. The plan for inspection of the P4D weld will be submitted 120 days prior to the start of the Unit 3 cycle 8 outage currently scheduled for October 1998.

