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SUBJECT: Forwards "ASME Section XI ISI Summary Rpt for BFN Unit 3
Cycle 7 Refueling Outage 970222-0313."

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June 10, 1997

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Gentlemen:

In the Matter of)
Tennessee Valley Authority)

Docket No. 50-296

**BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - UNIT 3 - AMERICAN SOCIETY
OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (ASME) SECTION XI, INSERVICE
INSPECTION AND REPAIR AND REPLACEMENTS FOR CYCLE 7 OPERATION -
SUMMARY REPORTS**

In accordance with paragraphs IWA-6220 and IWA-6230 of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, 1989 Edition, TVA is submitting the BFN Unit 3 summary reports for NRC review. The summary reports are for inservice inspection (NIS-1 Report), and repair and replacement activities (NIS-2 Report) for Unit 3 Cycle 7 operation.

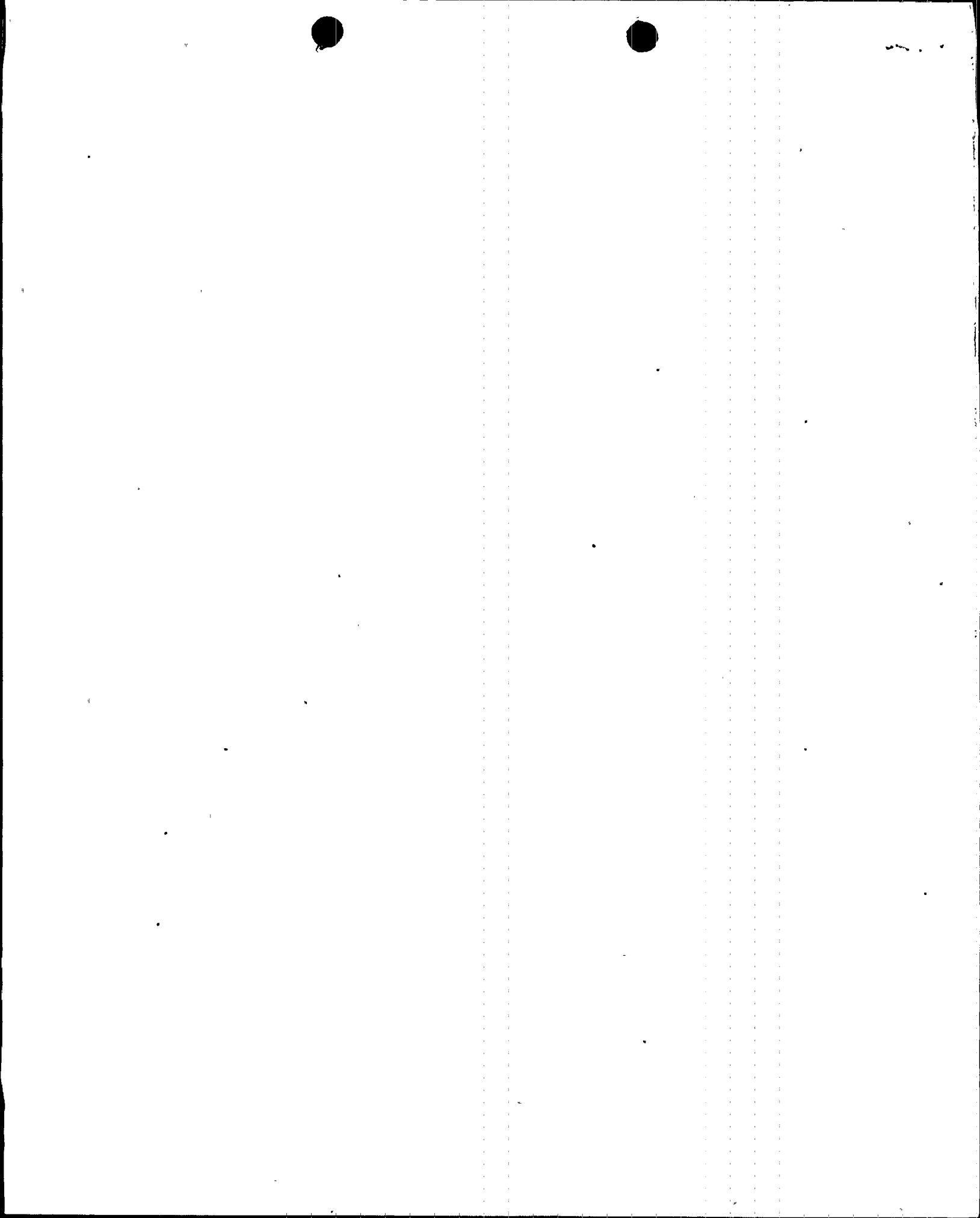
TVA has determined that four components had NDE examination coverage limitations outside those specified in ASME Code Case N-460, "Alternative Examination Coverage for Class 1 and Class 2 Welds, Section XI, Division 1." Three of the component's coverage limitations were addressed by BFN Unit 3 Request for Relief 3-ISI-4, (Integrally Welded Attachments) submitted by TVA letter dated January 22, 1997. A fourth component, the Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) Head Nozzle weld N6A (Code Category B-D), had a calculated NDE inspection coverage of 51.4 percent. The limitations encountered during the performance of the ultrasonic (UT) examination were caused by component configuration. The nozzle head contours limit the

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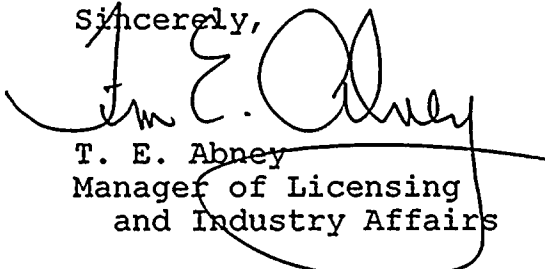
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Page 2
June 10, 1997

accessible UT examination volume. As a result, TVA will submit a request for relief to address the reduced NDE examination coverage for this component by August 15, 1997. TVA encountered similar NDE accessibility problems on the Unit 2 RPV Head nozzle (N6) and submitted request for relief ISI-2-3 by letter dated February 22, 1994. NRC accepted TVA's request for relief by letter dated November 29, 1995.

Enclosure 1 contains the BFN Unit 3 inservice inspection summary report for Code Class 1 and 2 pressure retaining components and their supports. Enclosure 2 contains the repair and replacements report for Code Class 1 and 2 components and supports. Additionally, enclosure 3 provides a summary of the commitment contained in this letter.

If you have any questions regarding these reports, please contact me at (205) 729-2636.

Sincerely,



T. E. Abney
Manager of Licensing
and Industry Affairs

Enclosures

cc (Enclosures):

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