

# CATEGORY 1

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ACCESSION NBR: 9803300244      DOC.DATE: 98/03/20      NOTARIZED: YES      DOCKET #  
 FACIL: 50-260 Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2, Tennessee      05000260  
       50-296 Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3, Tennessee      05000296  
 AUTH: NAME      AUTHOR AFFILIATION  
 ABNEY, T.E.      Tennessee Valley Authority  
 RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 Document Control Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Forwards marked up TS Page 5.0-16 & revised cover sheet for  
 Encl 3 "Marked Pages." Insert marked up & revised Pages  
 5.0-16 for Encls 3 & 4 respectively.

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Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Decatur, Alabama 35609-2000

March 20, 1998

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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of ) Docket Nos. 50-260  
Tennessee Valley Authority ) 50-296

**BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - UNITS 2 AND 3 - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION (TS) CHANGE TS-384 REQUEST FOR LICENSE AMMENDMENT FOR POWER UPRATE OPERATION**

In a letter dated October 1, 1997, TVA provided Units 2 And 3 - Technical Specification (TS) Change TS-384, Request For License Amendment For Power Uprate Operation. Enclosures 3 and 4 of the letter provided the TS markups and revised pages. Enclosure 5 of the letter contained the detailed Plant-Specific Power Uprate Safety Analysis, (NEDC-32751P). A recent review of these enclosures has identified one page that was inadvertently omitted for both units from the original letter and identified two errors in NEDC-32751P.

For the omitted page, TVA is providing a marked up page 5.0-16, and a revised cover sheet for Enclosure 3, "Marked Pages". Similarly, TVA is providing a revised page 5.0-16 and a revised cover sheet for Enclosure 4, "Revised Pages". Please remove the cover sheets for Enclosures 3 and 4 furnished by the October 1, 1997, letter, and replace them with those provided. Also, insert the marked up and revised pages 5.0-16 for Enclosures 3 and 4 respectively.

For the NEDC-32751P, replace the applicable pages in the evaluation with those provided. The 140 percent value originally provided for the Main Steam Line High Flow Isolation was the allowable value from current technical specifications. The correct number, 144 percent, is the

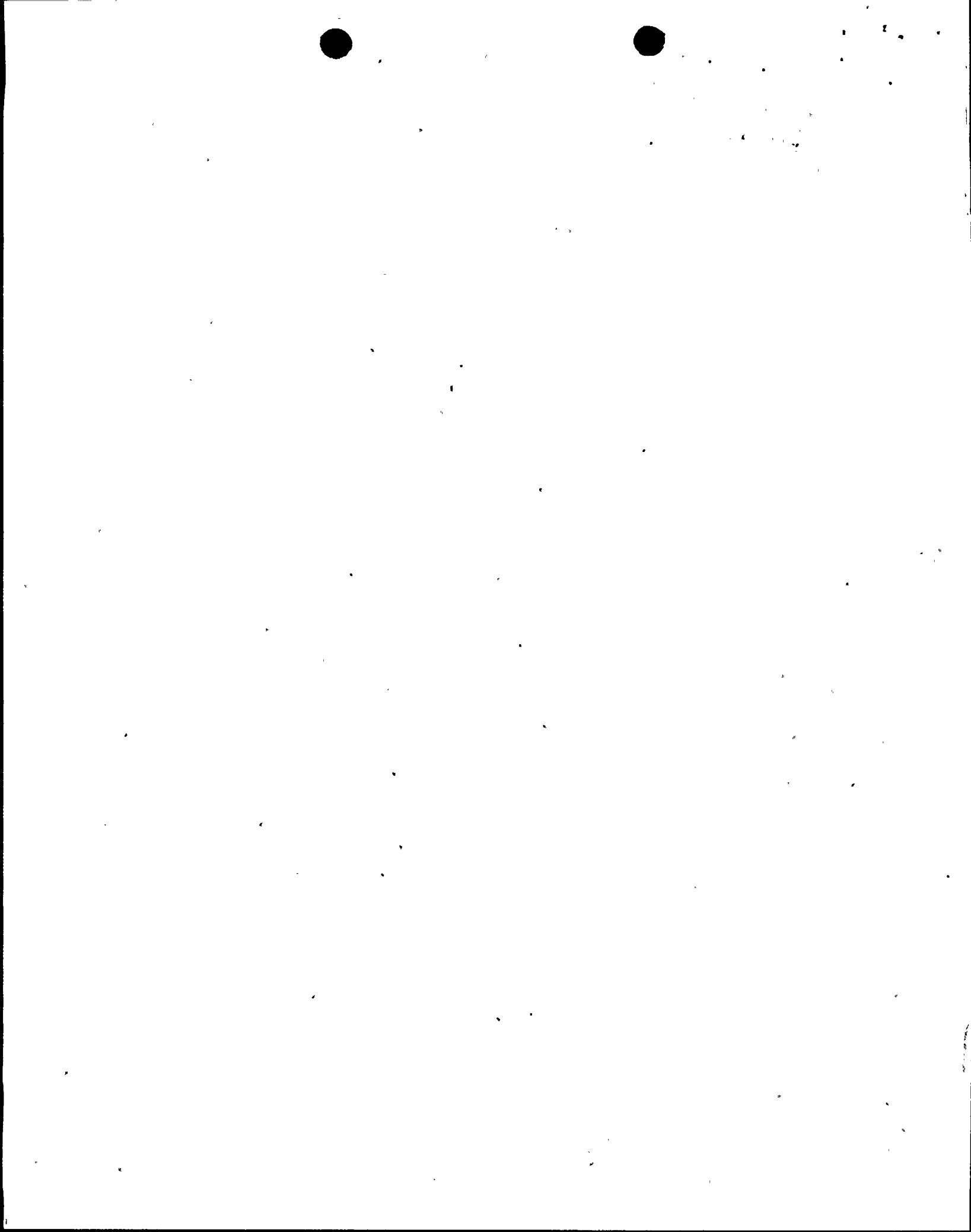
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Isolation was the allowable value from current technical specifications. The correct number, 144 percent, is the analytical limit for the Main Steam High Flow Isolation instrument. The report correctly concluded there is no change for the parameter.

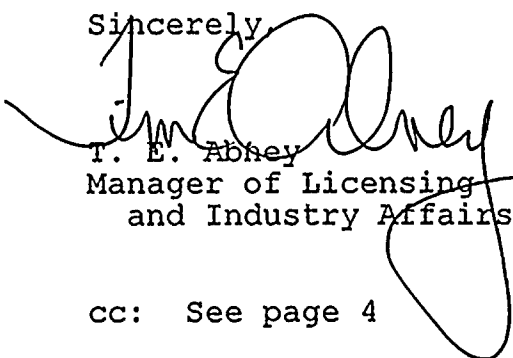
The report originally provided a peak drywell pressure of 50.3 pounds per square inch gage (psig). This value was based on a conversion factor of 14.7 psi between absolute and gauge pressure. BFN's site specific conversion factor is 14.4 psi. As such the peak drywell pressure originally reported should have been 50.6 psig rather than 50.3 psig.

These pages are part of a proprietary document and should be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.770(a)(4). The affidavit supporting the request in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(b)(1) is provided.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.91(b)(1), TVA is sending a copy of this letter to the Alabama State Department of Public Health.

There are no new commitments made in this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please telephone me at (205) 729-2636.

Sincerely,



T. E. Abney  
Manager of Licensing  
and Industry Affairs

cc: See page 4

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Reference:

TVA letter to NRC dated October 1, 1997, Browns Ferry Nuclear  
Plant (BFN) - Units 2 and 3 Technical Specification  
(TS)Change TS- 384 - Request For License Amendment for Power  
Uprate Operation



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Enclosures:

cc (Enclosures):

Chairman  
Limestone County Commission  
310 West Washington Street  
Athens, Alabama 35611

Mr. Mark S. Lesser, Branch Chief  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
61 Forsyth Street, S. W.  
Suite 23T85  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

NRC Resident Inspector  
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
10833 Shaw Road  
Athens, Alabama 35611

Mr. Albert W. De Agazio, Project Manager  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
One White Flint, North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

State Health Officer  
Alabama Department of Public Health  
434 Monroe Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1701





## General Electric Company

### AFFIDAVIT

I, **George B. Stramback**, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

- (1) I am Project Manager, Regulatory Services, General Electric Company ("GE") and have been delegated the function of reviewing the information described in paragraph (2) which is sought to be withheld, and have been authorized to apply for its withholding.
- (2) The information sought to be withheld is contained in the GE proprietary report NEDC-32751P, *Power Uprate Safety Analysis for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Units 2 & 3*, Class III (GE Proprietary Information), dated September 1997. This document, taken as a whole, constitutes a proprietary compilation of information, some of it also independently proprietary, prepared by the General Electric Company. The independently proprietary elements are delineated by bars marked in the margin adjacent to the specific material.
- (3) In making this application for withholding of proprietary information of which it is the owner, GE relies upon the exemption from disclosure set forth in the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 USC Sec. 552(b)(4), and the Trade Secrets Act, 18 USC Sec. 1905, and NRC regulations 10 CFR 9.17(a)(4), 2.790(a)(4), and 2.790(d)(1) for "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential" (Exemption 4). The material for which exemption from disclosure is here sought is all "confidential commercial information", and some portions also qualify under the narrower definition of "trade secret", within the meanings assigned to those terms for purposes of FOIA Exemption 4 in, respectively, Critical Mass Energy Project v. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 975F2d871 (DC Cir. 1992), and Public Citizen Health Research Group v. FDA, 704F2d1280 (DC Cir. 1983).
- (4) Some examples of categories of information which fit into the definition of proprietary information are:
  - a. Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by General Electric's competitors without license from General Electric constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies;

- b. Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product;
- c. Information which reveals cost or price information, production capacities, budget levels, or commercial strategies of General Electric, its customers, or its suppliers;
- d. Information which reveals aspects of past, present, or future General Electric customer-funded development plans and programs, of potential commercial value to General Electric;
- e. Information which discloses patentable subject matter for which it may be desirable to obtain patent protection.

Both the compilation as a whole and the marked independently proprietary elements incorporated in that compilation are considered proprietary for the reason described in items (4)a. and (4)b., above.

- (5) The information sought to be withheld is being submitted to NRC in confidence. That information (both the entire body of information in the form compiled in this document, and the marked individual proprietary elements) is of a sort customarily held in confidence by GE, and has, to the best of my knowledge, consistently been held in confidence by GE, has not been publicly disclosed, and is not available in public sources. All disclosures to third parties including any required transmittals to NRC, have been made, or must be made, pursuant to regulatory provisions or proprietary agreements which provide for maintenance of the information in confidence. Its initial designation as proprietary information, and the subsequent steps taken to prevent its unauthorized disclosure, are as set forth in paragraphs (6) and (7) following.
- (6) Initial approval of proprietary treatment of a document is made by the manager of the originating component, the person most likely to be acquainted with the value and sensitivity of the information in relation to industry knowledge. Access to such documents within GE is limited on a "need to know" basis.
- (7) The procedure for approval of external release of such a document typically requires review by the staff manager, project manager, principal scientist or other equivalent authority, by the manager of the cognizant marketing function (or his delegate), and by the Legal Operation, for technical content, competitive effect, and determination of the accuracy of the proprietary designation. Disclosures outside GE are limited to regulatory bodies, customers, and potential customers, and their agents, suppliers, and licensees, and others with a legitimate need for the information, and then only in accordance with appropriate regulatory provisions or proprietary agreements.



- (8) The information identified by bars in the margin is classified as proprietary because it contains detailed results and conclusions from these evaluations, utilizing analytical models and methods, including computer codes, which GE has developed, obtained NRC approval of, and applied to perform evaluations of transient and accident events in the GE Boiling Water Reactor ("BWR"). The development and approval of these system, component, and thermal hydraulic models and computer codes was achieved at a significant cost to GE, on the order of several million dollars.

The remainder of the information identified in paragraph (2), above, is classified as proprietary because it constitutes a confidential compilation of information, including detailed results of analytical models, methods, and processes, including computer codes, and conclusions from these applications, which represent, as a whole, an integrated process or approach which GE has developed, obtained NRC approval of, and applied to perform evaluations of the safety-significant changes necessary to demonstrate the regulatory acceptability of a given increase in licensed power output for a GE BWR. The development and approval of this overall approach was achieved at a significant additional cost to GE, in excess of a million dollars, over and above the very large cost of developing the underlying individual proprietary analyses.

To effect a change to the licensing basis of a plant requires a thorough evaluation of the impact of the change on all postulated accident and transient events, and all other regulatory requirements and commitments included in the plant's FSAR. The analytical process to perform and document these evaluations for a proposed power uprate was developed at a substantial investment in GE resources and expertise. The results from these evaluations identify those BWR systems and components, and those postulated events, which are impacted by the changes required to accommodate operation at increased power levels, and, just as importantly, those which are not so impacted, and the technical justification for not considering the latter in changing the licensing basis. The scope thus determined forms the basis for GE's offerings to support utilities in both performing analyses and providing licensing consulting services. Clearly, the scope and magnitude of effort of any attempt by a competitor to effect a similar licensing change can be narrowed considerably based upon these results. Having invested in the initial evaluations and developed the solution strategy and process described in the subject document GE derives an important competitive advantage in selling and performing these services. However, the mere knowledge of the impact on each system and component reveals the process, and provides a guide to the solution strategy.

- (9) Public disclosure of the information sought to be withheld is likely to cause substantial harm to GE's competitive position and foreclose or reduce the availability of profit-making opportunities. The information is part of GE's comprehensive BWR technology base, and its commercial value extends beyond the original development cost. The value of the technology base goes beyond the extensive

physical database and analytical methodology and includes development of the expertise to determine and apply the appropriate evaluation process. In addition, the technology base includes the value derived from providing analyses done with NRC-approved methods, including justifications for not including certain analyses in applications to change the licensing basis.

GE's competitive advantage will be lost if its competitors are able to use the results of the GE experience to avoid fruitless avenues, or to normalize or verify their own process, or to claim an equivalent understanding by demonstrating that they can arrive at the same or similar conclusions. In particular, the specific areas addressed by any document and submittal to support a change in the safety or licensing bases of the plant will clearly reveal those areas where detailed evaluations must be performed and specific analyses revised, and also, by omission, reveal those areas not so affected.

While some of the underlying analyses, and some of the gross structure of the process, may at various times have been publicly revealed, enough of both the analyses and the detailed structural framework of the process have been held in confidence that this information, in this compiled form, continues to have great competitive value to GE. This value would be lost if the information as a whole, in the context and level of detail provided in the subject GE document, were to be disclosed to the public. Making such information available to competitors without their having been required to undertake a similar expenditure of resources, including that required to determine the areas that are not affected by a power uprate and are therefore blind alleys, would unfairly provide competitors with a windfall, and deprive GE of the opportunity to exercise its competitive advantage to seek an adequate return on its large investment in developing its analytical process.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA        )  
  )  
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA    )        SS:

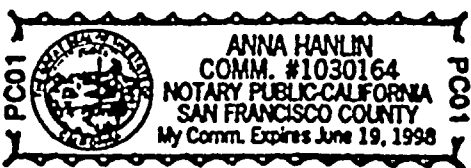
George B. Stramback, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That he has read the foregoing affidavit and the matters stated therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief.

Executed at San Jose, California, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 1997.

George B. Stramback  
George B. Stramback  
General Electric Company

Subscribed and sworn before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 1997.



Anna Hanlin  
Notary Public, State of California

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