



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

September 19, 1998

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, CORE SPRAY SYSTEM PIPING - INSPECTION AND
REPAIR PLANS FOR THE CYCLE 8 REFUELING OUTAGE (TAC NO. MA1970)

This letter responds to the NRC September 16, 1998, request
for plant specific design and installation details regarding
TVA's inspection and repair of the BFN Unit 3 Core Spray
System piping internal to the reactor vessel. TVA plans to
perform the inspections and repairs during the Unit 3 Cycle 8
refueling outage scheduled to begin on September 20, 1998.

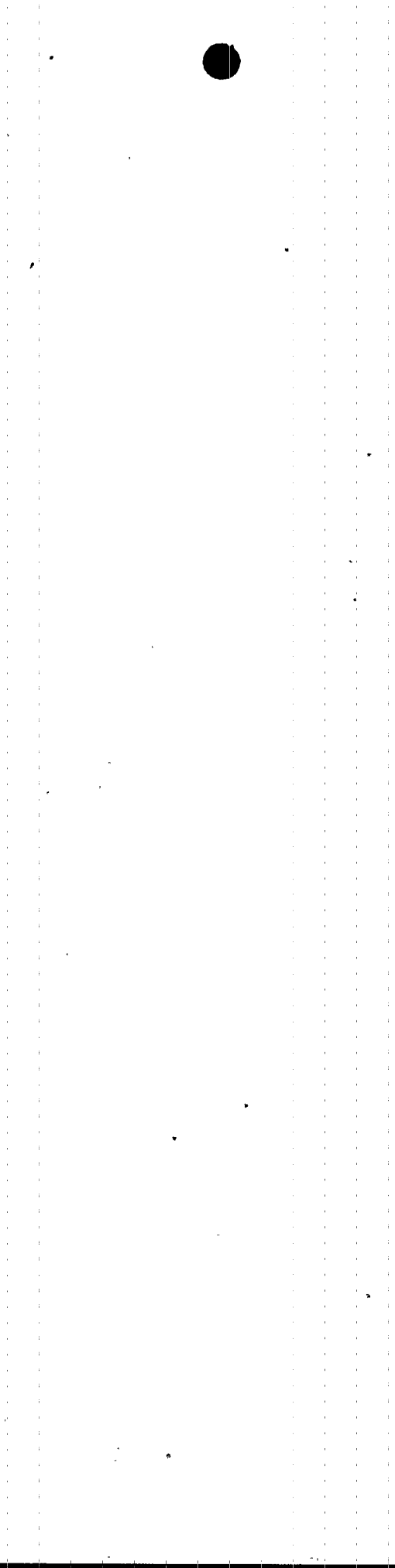
On May 20, 1998, TVA submitted a description of its inspection
and repair plan for Core Spray System piping internal to the
reactor vessel. TVA's inspection plan meets the guidance
provided in the Boiling Water Reactor Vessel Internals Project
(BWRVIP) Committee BWRVIP-18 Report and the repairs will
follow the guidance in BWRVIP-16.

TVA has subsequently completed the repair design in accordance
with the Design Change Notice requirements. The design and
remotely operated tooling have been developed and qualified.
The removal and installation process has been tested in the
General Electric (GE) BWR Training Center in a remote,
underwater, full scale mock-up environment to demonstrate
installation in conformance with the design criteria.

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In the NRC September 16, 1998 letter, the staff determined that TVA's proposed inspection and repair plan was acceptable. However, the staff requested that TVA provide additional plant-specific design and installation details. On September 17, 1998, a teleconference between BFN management and the NRC staff was held to provide clarification regarding the information requested by the staff.

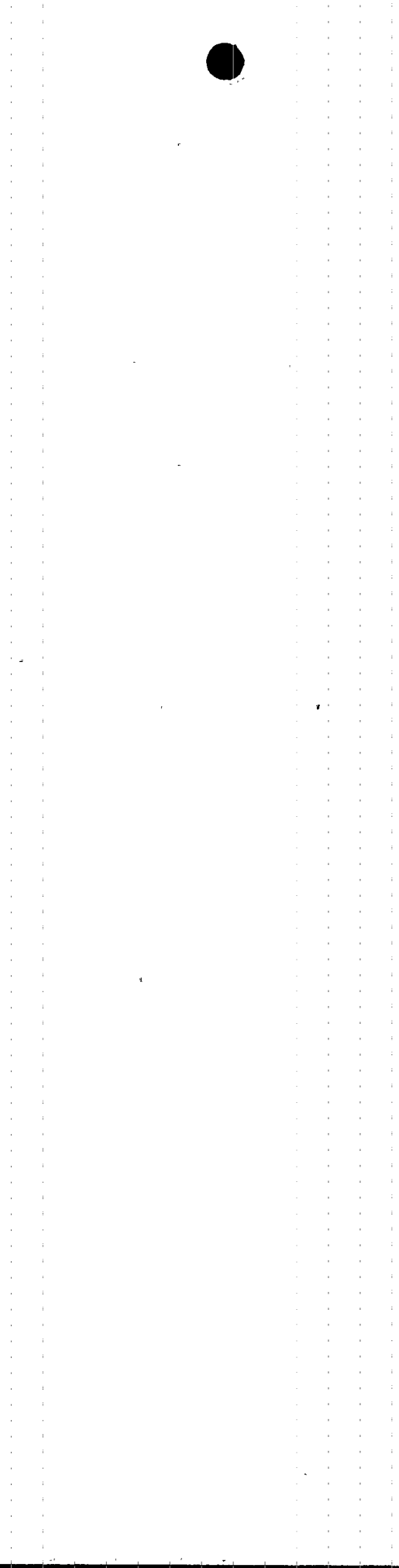
Enclosure 1 to this letter provides the information agreed upon during the above referenced teleconference. The information submitted for NRC review includes the following:

- Materials Selection/Specifications
- Fabrication/Repair Practices
- Installation Methods/Sequencing
- Post Installation Inspection Methods
- Summary of Fatigue Evaluation for Replacement Components

During the teleconference, NRC also requested information pertaining to methods of future reinspection. TVA has not fully determined its plans for future reinspection of the repaired components at this time. However, TVA plans to use applicable BWRVIP guidance.

Enclosure 1 contains information proprietary to GE and is provided for information only. GE requests that these documents be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a)(4). An affidavit supporting this request is provided in Enclosure 2 in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(b)(1).

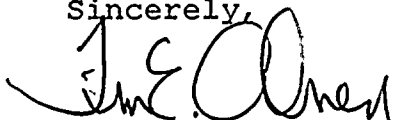
As agreed with the staff in the September 17, 1998 teleconference, TVA is proceeding with the repair of the Core Spray System piping in accordance with the outage schedule.



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If you have further questions regarding this information
please call me at (256) 729-2636.

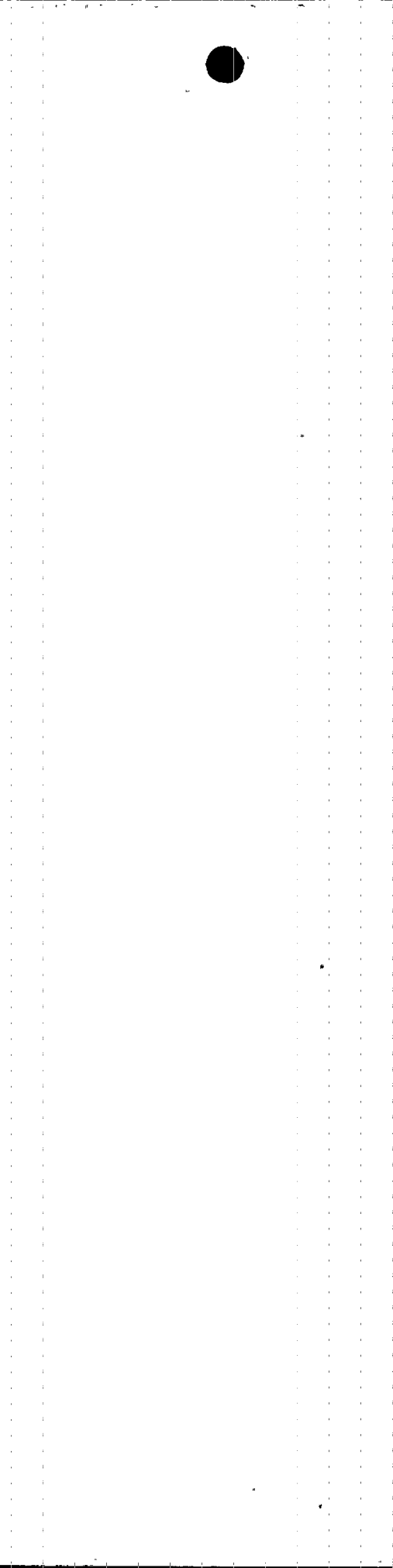
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "T. E. Abney". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

T. E. Abney
Manager of Licensing
and Industry Affairs

Enclosure

cc: See page 4



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Enclosure

cc (Enclosure):

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