

# CATEGORY 1

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SUBJECT: Informs that Oscillation Power Range Monitor module has been enabled for current cycle of operation following Unit 2 cycle 10 refueling outage which was completed on 990509.

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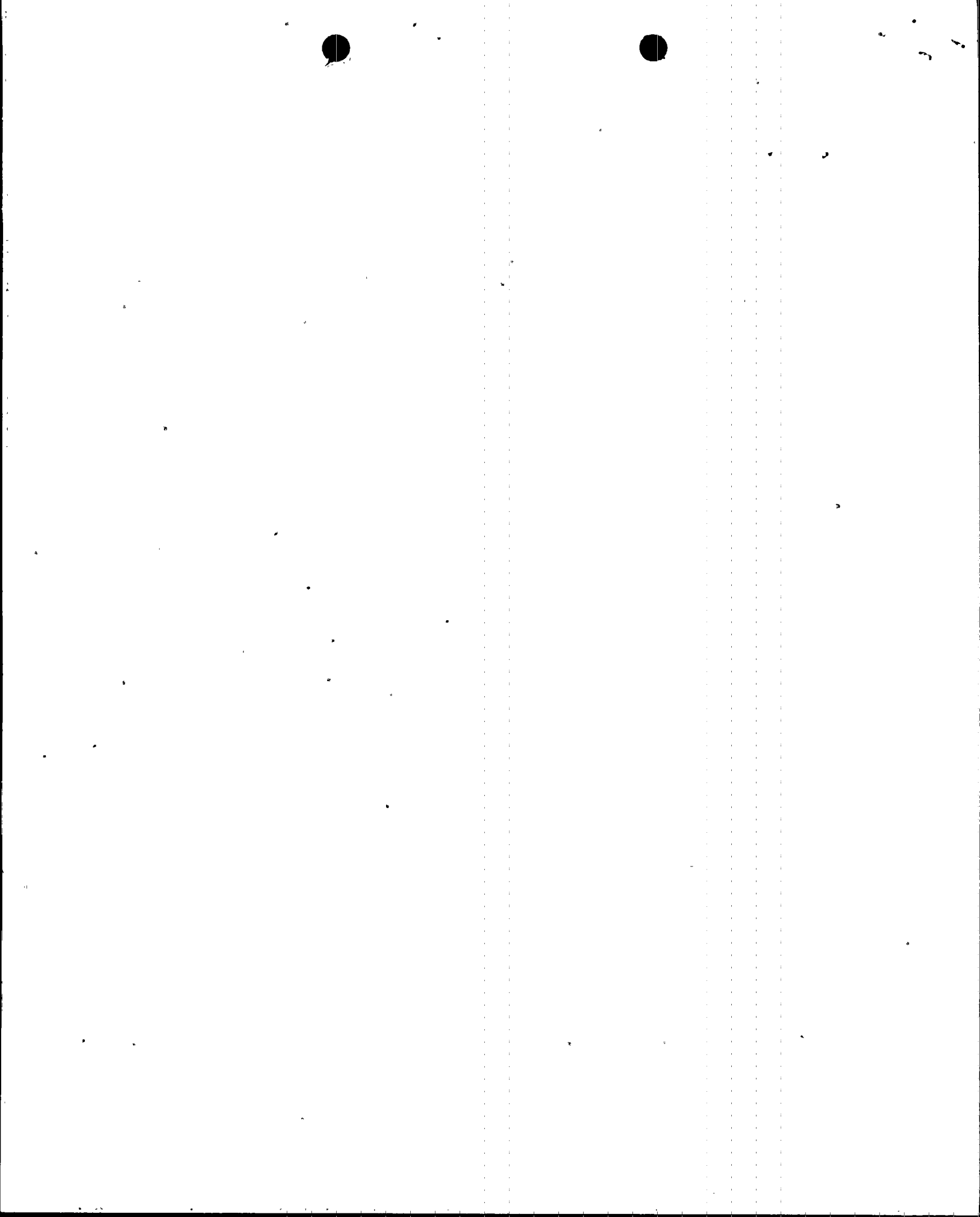
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Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Decatur, Alabama 35609

May 24, 1999

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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of ) Docket No. 50-260  
Tennessee Valley Authority )

**BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - UNIT 2 - IMPLEMENTATION OF  
LONG-TERM STABILITY SOLUTION - OPTION III**

In TVA's September 8, 1994, response to Generic Letter 94-02, "Long-Term Solutions and Upgrade of Interim Operating Recommendations for Thermal-Hydraulics Instabilities in Boiling Water Reactors", TVA committed to notify NRC within 30 days of the implementation of the long-term stability solution for Unit 2. TVA had previously chosen to implement the stability solution designated as Option III in NEDO-31960 and NEDO-31960, Supplement 1, "BWR Owners' Group Long Term Stability Solution Licensing Methodology". In terms of equipment, the stability trip function is provided by the Oscillation Power Range Monitor (OPRM) module of the Power Range Neutron Monitor (PRNM). The PRNM system is a digital General Electric Nuclear Measurement Analysis and Control (NUMAC) neutron monitoring system which replaces the analog power range neutron monitoring system.

The PRNM system was installed on Unit 2 during the Fall 1997, refueling outage for operation during the following fuel cycle (10). During cycle 10, all PRNM functions were in service with the exception of the stability monitor trip

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functions of the OPRM module, which was operated in the "indicate only" mode for testing and adjustment. Results of the online OPRM testing were submitted to NRC on December 15, 1998, along with a description of the principal system parameters that were adjusted.

Unit 2 Technical Specifications (TS) changes required for enabling the OPRM were provided in a submittal dated September 8, 1998, and supplemented on February 22, 1999 (BFN TS-354). NRC approved the OPRM TS on March 5, 1999, as Amendment No. 258 to the Unit 2 Facility Operating License (TAC No. MA3556).

The OPRM has been enabled for the current cycle of operation following the Unit 2, Cycle 10 refueling outage which was completed on May 9, 1999. OPRM testing and required surveillance tests were satisfactorily completed, and the OPRM system is in service and enabled. Therefore, TVA considers the commitment to provide a long-term stability solution completed for Unit 2. For Unit 3, the OPRM is being tested during the current fuel cycle and will be enabled following the Spring 2000 refueling outage.

There are no new commitments in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (256) 729-2636.

Sincerely,



T. E. Abney  
Manager of Licensing  
and Industry Affairs

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