



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 20, 2018

Mr. J. W. Shea
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Marker Street, LP 1G-C
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY – NOTIFICATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE CLINCH RIVER NUCLEAR SITE IN ROANE COUNTY, TENNESSEE AND ASSOCIATED *FEDERAL REGISTER* NOTICE

Dear Mr. Shea:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application submitted by the Tennessee Valley Authority for an early site permit (ESP) for the Clinch River Nuclear (CRN) Site near Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District (USACE), is a cooperating agency on the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS), which was prepared in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51, the NRC's regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended.

Enclosed is a DVD of the DEIS, NUREG-2226, "Environmental Impact Statement for an Early Site Permit (ESP) for the Clinch River Nuclear Site: Draft Report for Comment" is for your information and review; and the associated *Federal Register* Notice of Availability (FRN). For your convenience, a Reader's Guide is attached to the DVD. The Reader's Guide is a detailed brochure to facilitate your understanding of the proposed action and its potential environmental impacts.

As discussed in Section 10.6 of the DEIS, the NRC staff's preliminary recommendation is that the ESP should be issued. This preliminary recommendation is based on: (1) the ESP application environmental report; (2) consultation with Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies; (3) the review team's independent review; (4) consideration of public scoping comments; and (5) the assessments summarized in the DEIS, including the potential mitigation measures identified.

The FRN advises the public that the DEIS is available for public review. The DEIS is available through the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which is accessible from the NRC's Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> at ADAMS Accession No. ML18100A220 and ML18100A223. In addition, the DEIS can be found online at the NRC's Clinch River Nuclear Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/esp/clinch-river.html>.

The NRC and USACE staff plan to hold two public meetings to discuss the analyses and results in the DEIS on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at Noah's Event Venue, 1200 Ladd Landing Boulevard, Kingston, Tennessee. The first meeting will convene at 2:00 p.m. and will continue until 4:00 p.m., as necessary. The second meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m., with a repeat of the

overview portions of the first meeting, and will continue until 9:00 p.m., as necessary. The meetings will be transcribed and will include: (1) a presentation of the contents of the DEIS; and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the DEIS. Additionally, the NRC and USACE staff will host informal discussions one hour before the start of each meeting during which members of the public may meet with NRC and USACE staff. You and your staff are invited to attend.

Please provide any information, comments, or concerns you feel are appropriate on the DEIS during the comment period, which ends on July 13, 2018. Comments can be submitted: (1) by e-mail to ClinchRiverESPEIS@nrc.gov; or (2) in person during the public meetings. After consideration of public comments received, as well as information received through consultation, the NRC will prepare a final environmental impact statement, which is scheduled to be published in June 2019.

A separate notice of filing of the DEIS will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact an NRC environmental project manager for the CRN ESP project, Ms. Patricia Vokoun at (301) 415-3470 or by e-mail at Patricia.Vokoun@nrc.gov, or in her absence, please contact Ms. Tamsen Dozier at 301-415-2272 or by e-mail at Tamsen.Dozier@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA - A. Bradford for/

Adrian Muñiz, Acting Branch Chief
Licensing Branch 3
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-047

Enclosure: as stated

cc: w/encl: See next page

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DATED: APRIL 20, 2018

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(Revised 04/24/2018)

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