



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

April 3, 2018

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street, LP 4A
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

**SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - ACCEPTANCE
REVIEW REGARDING PROPOSED EXPANDED MAXIMUM EXTENDED LOAD
LINE LIMIT ANALYSIS PLUS (EPID L-2018-LLA-0048)**

Dear Mr. Shea:

By letter dated February 23, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML18079B140), as supplemented by letter dated March 7, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18067A495), Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA, the licensee) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3. The proposed amendment would allow operation in the expanded Maximum Extended Load Line Limit Analysis Plus operating domain.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this LAR. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information, in scope and depth, to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

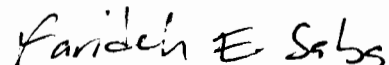
The NRC staff has reviewed TVA's submitted information and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite

completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 2500 hours to review the LAR. The NRC staff expects to complete its reviews within 26 months of the date of its submittal, which is April 2020, and that is aligned with the licensee's request for approval of the LAR.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1447 or Farideh.Saba@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Farideh E Saba". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'F' and 'S'.

Farideh E. Saba, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

cc: Listserv

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*via e-mail

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