



Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402

CNL-18-115

September 7, 2018

10 CFR 52, Subpart A

ATTN: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Clinch River Nuclear Site
NRC Docket No. 52-047

Subject: Status of Clinch River Breeder Reactor Project Wells

Reference: Letter from TVA to NRC, CNL-17-151, "Revision 1 of Application for Early Site Permit for Clinch River Nuclear Site," dated December 15, 2017

By letter dated December 15, 2017 (Reference), Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted Revision 1 of the application for an early site permit (ESPA) for the Clinch River Nuclear (CRN) Site in Oak Ridge, TN. As stated in Part 2, Site Safety Analysis Report (SSAR), Subsection 2.4.12.1.4.1, "CRBRP Investigation," and Part 3, Environmental Report (ER), Subsection 2.3.1.2.1.4.1, "CRBRP Investigation," TVA identified no abandoned wells in the area adjacent to the Clinch River Breeder Reactor Project (CRBRP) excavation while performing the well drilling associated with the CRN Site subsurface investigation. These ESPA subsections further state that it is likely that the wells were destroyed and/or removed during site excavation and subsequent site redress.

During a routine site walk-down in April 2018, one CRBRP groundwater well was found open. TVA subsequently performed two searches of the site in an effort to identify other CRBRP wells. During the searches two additional groundwater wells were found. The statements in SSAR Subsection 2.4.12.1.4.1 and ER Subsection 2.3.1.2.1.4.1 will be changed in a future revision of the CRN ESPA to state, "Abandoned wells from the CRBRP were identified on site. The identified CRBRP wells will be evaluated for closure in accordance with applicable TVA and TDEC [Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation] requirements."

TVA has evaluated the effects of the CRBRP groundwater wells on the assumptions made in the CRN ESPA regarding the potential for transport to groundwater. As described in SSAR Subsection 2.4.13.1, "Accident Source," no credit is taken for the time that radionuclides may take (and the associated radioactive decay) to travel from the ruptured tank to the saturated zone. Therefore, the existence of CRBRP groundwater wells on the CRN Site has no impact on the analyses results and does not change the conclusion in the CRN ESPA regarding the potential for transport to groundwater.

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There are no new regulatory commitments associated with this submittal. If any additional information is needed, please contact Dan Stout at (423) 751-7642.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this 7th day of September 2018.

Respectfully,



J. W. Shea
Vice President, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs and Support Services

cc:

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