

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

5N 157B Lookout Place

OCT 23 1989

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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of )  
Tennessee Valley Authority )

Docket No. 50-327

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) UNIT 1 - DOCKET NO. 50-327 - FACILITY OPERATING  
LICENSE DPR-77 - SPECIAL REPORT 89-12

This enclosed special report provides details concerning smoke detectors in  
Unit 1 fire detection Zone 352, lower compartment coolers, which have been  
inoperable for more than 14 days. This report is being made in accordance  
with Limiting Condition for Operation 3.3.3.8, Action Statement b.

If you have any questions concerning this submittal, please telephone  
M. A. Cooper at (615) 843-6651.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

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Enclosure

cc (Enclosure):

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ENCLOSURE  
SQN SPECIAL REPORT 89-12

Description of Event

On September 7, 1989, with Units 1 and 2 in Mode 1, at 100 percent power, 2,235 pounds per square inch gauge, 578 degrees Fahrenheit, while performing Surveillance Instruction (SI) 234.7, "Technical Specification Fire Detectors," it was determined that smoke detectors with the equipment identification Nos. XS-013-190A, XS-013-190B, XS-013-190C, and XS-013-190D located in Unit 1 fire detection Zone 352, lower compartment coolers, were inoperable as indicated by the trouble light on Panel O-L-629. Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.3.3.8 was entered at 2235 Eastern daylight time (EDT) on September 7, 1989.

Fire detection Zone 352, lower compartment coolers, is located inside containment within the polar crane wall. On September 7, 1989, for ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable) reasons, a management decision was made not to enter fire detection Zone 352 to restore the smoke detectors to an operable status. This decision has prevented the inoperable smoke detectors from being restored to an operable status within 14 days as required by LCO 3.3.3.8, Action Statement b. At 2335 EDT on September 7, 1989, as required by LCO 3.3.3.8, Action Statement a, hourly containment air temperature monitoring began at the locations listed in Specification 4.6.1.5.

Cause of Event

The root cause of this event will not be determined until entry into fire detection Zone 352 is made and work request (WR) B771329 is performed. WR B771329 is scheduled to be worked during the next Unit 1 outage of sufficient duration, currently scheduled for December 1989.

Analysis of Event

This event is reported in accordance with the requirements of Action Statement b of LCO 3.3.3.8.

The mitigating effect of the inoperable smoke detectors on the fire suppression system is compensated by the existing hourly containment air temperature monitoring being performed.

Corrective Action

Containment air temperature is being monitored at least once every hour at the locations listed in Specification 4.6.1.5 as required by LCO 3.3.3.8, Action Statement a. WR B771329, scheduled to be worked in December 1989, has been written to determine and correct the root cause of the event.

Commitments

None.