

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

March 10, 1981

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II - Suite 3100
101 Marietta Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

This is in response to your February 25, 1981, letter to H. G. Parris, Report Nos. 50-259/80-36, -260/80-30, and -296/80-30, concerning a special appraisal of the health physics program at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. Enclosed is our response to Appendix A Notice of Significant Findings.

Based on our corrective actions identified in the enclosure, continued operation of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant is justified and the operating licenses for Browns Ferry units 1, 2, and 3 should not be modified, suspended, or revoked. If you have any questions, please call Jim Damer at FTS 357-2014.

To the best of my knowledge, I declare the statements contained herein are complete and true.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

L. M. Mills, Manager
Nuclear Regulation and Safety

Enclosure

8106230643

POOR ORIGINAL

ENCLOSURE

RESPONSE TO IE INSPECTION REPORT NOS.
50-259/80-36, 50-260/80-30, 50-296/80-30
HEALTH PHYSICS APPRAISAL
BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT
(DOCKET NOS. 50-259, -260, -296)

APPENDIX A - NOTICE OF SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

Based on the Health Physics Appraisal conducted October 20-31, 1980, the following item appears to require corrective action:

The personnel contamination monitoring program is not adequate to assure that personnel exiting the facility are not contaminated above the plant limit.

1. Steps Which Have Been Taken

The location and background level of each frisking station has been evaluated. Those frisker locations with unacceptable background levels have been eliminated or moved. The frequency of response checks of friskers was increased from one to three times per week. A background check column was added to the frisker response check data sheet. The background levels at each frisker location will be reviewed by the Assistant Radiation Control Supervisor over a period of one year. Those friskers with background of unacceptable levels will be removed from service or the background will be reduced to acceptable levels.

Plant management has issued memorandums concerning the use of hand and foot monitors. Periodic surveys are being performed to ensure personnel are using the hand and foot monitors as required. Personnel identified as failing to use the monitors will receive appropriate administrative action.

2. Steps Which Will Be Taken

Two liquid scintillation type portal monitors have been purchased. These units provide a more sensitive and faster means of personnel checks. Additional units may be purchased and installed if operational and maintenance characteristics of the portal monitors are acceptable and adequate.

3. A Schedule For Completion of Action

Portal monitors will be installed in a new interim gatehouse on the west side of the plant. This gatehouse is scheduled for completion by spring 1981. This schedule is subject to change dependent on material delivery and engineering and craft workloads.