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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

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May 5, 1981

U.S. NUCLEAR REG.
COMMISSION
IMSS MAIL SECTION



Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards
Attn: Mr. L. C. Rouse, Chief
Advanced Fuel and Spent Fuel
Licensing Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Rouse:

In the Matter of the) Docket No. 30-19102
Tennessee Valley Authority)

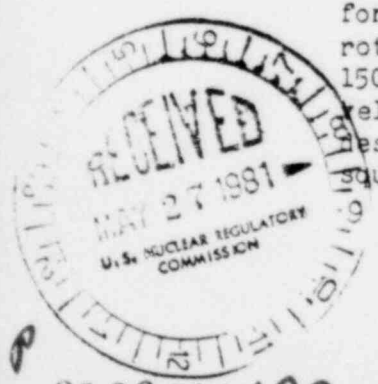
Please refer to my letters to H. R. Denton dated July 31 and November 17, 1980 in which TVA requested amendments to facility operating licenses DPR-33, DPR-52, and DPR-68 for onsite storage of low-level radioactive waste generated from the operation of Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFNP).

Comments have been received from members of the public about the ability of the facility to withstand tornadoes. Accordingly, we are providing you with the following clarification regarding tornado design specifications for your information.

TVA is proposing the storage of low-level radioactive waste at several of its nuclear plant sites and, in an effort to economize, has developed a design for storage module construction which covers a spectrum of design basis events for use at all TVA nuclear plant sites. Thus, using the current approach, design parameters employed by TVA at some plants are in some cases more conservative than is necessary for that particular plant. This is done in order to facilitate a design which is acceptable for all plants; however, if conditions change, site specific designs may be used for future facilities.

The storage modules at BFNP shall be able to meet the following design specifications:

Each storage module is designed to withstand the forces exerted by a tornado wind having a peripheral rotational velocity of 290 miles per hour at a radius of 150 feet from the center of the tornado and a translational velocity of 70 miles per hour. The storage modules are also designed for a tornado depressurization load of 3 pounds per square inch.



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and Safeguards

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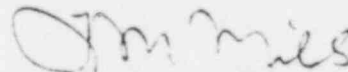
In addition to the design parameters noted above, the storage modules are constructed of thick reinforced concrete due to shielding considerations and will be capable of resisting tornado missile penetrations.

We would like to emphasize that this information is provided for clarification and does not represent a change in the original design of the proposed facility. The original facility design, which included a tornado analysis, was developed in early 1980.

If we can provide you with any additional information, please let us know.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



L. M. Mills, Manager
Nuclear Regulation and Safety

cc: Mr. Charles R. Christopher
Chairman, Limestone County Commission
P.O. Box 188
Athens, Alabama 35611

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: Mr. Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Mr. K. D. Fagan, Supervisor - Nuclear
General Electric Company
832 Georgia Avenue
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Mr. Ira L. Myers
State Health Officer
State Office Building
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

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