June 3, 1981

EN-81-10A

OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: Tennessee Valley Authority, Knoxville, TN Docket Nos. 50-259; 50-260; and 50-296 (Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2 and 3)

Subject: IMPOSITION OF CIVIL PENALTIES - \$45,000

By EN-81-10, dated March 17, 1981, the Commission was notified of IK's intent to issue a Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalties in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars to the Tennessee Valley Authority. This action was based on alleged violations related to a breakdown of the licensee's control of the fire protection program at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. The Notice was issued on March 20, 1981, and the licensee responded to the Notice in a letter dated April 3, 1981, expressing willingness to submit prompt payment of the proposed penalties once NRC had informed them of its reconsideration of the facts and circumstances surrounding the violations.

After consideration of the licensee's response, the IE staff concluded that, with the exception of one violation, the proposed penalties for the violations designated in the Notice should be imposed as proposed. The violation which related to a license amendment and its associated \$5,000 penalty were withdrawn. Accordingly, an order imposing the mitigated \$45,000 penalty has been issued today. An appendix to the order includes IE's evaluation and conclusion with respect to the licensee's April 3, 1981 response concerning the violations for which the civil penalty is assessed. In addition, an enclosure to the cover letter provides our evaluation of the licensee's response concerning related deviations.

Since this matter involved a remission of the penalty for one item, a news release will be issued about the time the licensee is informed.

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