

50-327

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

MORRIS, TENNESSEE 37828

215 Natural Resources Building

MARCH 3 1981

Mr. James R. Patrick, Jr., Chief
Compliance Section, Water Enforcement Branch
Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV
345 Courtland Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

Dear Mr. Patrick:

NOTIFICATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE WITH EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS - NPDES PERMIT
NO. TN0026450 - SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT

Description of the discharge--Discharge 002 - Sewage treatment plant effluent.
Samples collected on the following dates contained less than the minimum
1.0 mg/l dissolved oxygen.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dissolved Oxygen mg/l</u>
1-27-81	0.6
1-28-81	0.6
1-30-81	0.5
2-1-81	0.9
2-2-81	0.5
2-3-81	0.7
2-17-81	0.7

Samples collected on February 16 and 18, 1981, had pH values less than the
minimum pH limit of 6.0 units. Both samples had pH values of 5.8 units.

Cause and period of the noncompliance--The cause of the noncompliance is
unknown; however, we believe that decreases in ambient temperature and in
organic and hydraulic loadings (because of a decrease in the number of
personnel), and improperly set air cycles reduced the plant's treatment
efficiency.

Steps taken to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncomplying
discharge--Plant operations have been reviewed and air cycles have been changed
to try to correct the low dissolved oxygen problem. The pH was increased by
adding sodium bicarbonate to the plant.

Sincerely,

Mohamed T. El-Ashry, Ph.D.
Director of Environmental Quality

cc: See page 2

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Mr. James R. Patrick, Jr.

cc: Tennessee Department of Public Health
Division of Water Quality Control
621 Cordell Hull Building
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

Mr. Harold E. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Washington, DC 20555

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II - Suite 3300, 101 Marietta Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303