



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MAR 2 1981



Mr. H. G. Parris  
Manager of Power  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
500A Chestnut Street, Tower II  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401

Dear Mr. Parris:

SUBJECT: REPORTING FAULTS AT PHIPPS BEND NUCLEAR PLANT SITE

During recent telephone conversations on January 14 and 25, 1981, your staff reported that several faults were discovered while excavating for construction of the Phipps Bend Nuclear Plant's cooling tower. These faults were described as minor and similar to those uncovered and analyzed in the reactor excavation area. The faults are believed to have been formed during the same tectonic event, Appalachian Orogeny, 250 million years ago. As these faults are very common and similar to those already evaluated, a telephone report will not be necessary for similar ones discovered during the remainder of construction in the cooling tower area. You should, however, continue the previous practice of photographing and mapping the fault prior to placing concrete and filing a written report with the NRC.

Faults uncovered which do not exhibit similarities to those already assessed should continue to be reported by telephone.

Sincerely,

*for Robert L. Tedesco*

Robert L. Tedesco, Assistant Director  
for Licensing  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page.

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