



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

December 18, 1990

Mr. Steven A. White
119 Chestnut Ridge Road
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

Dear Mr. White:

I am responding to your letter of October 10, 1990, in which you expressed concern about what you believe are attacks on your personal integrity in documents issued by the NRC staff. I want to assure you that the documents in question were not issued with the intent of making gratuitous charges against you.

As you may know, following completion of a formal investigation by our Office of Investigations and Commission review of its findings, the NRC must determine whether the facts in the case warrant imposition of a civil penalty or other enforcement action against the licensed operator of the facility for violation of NRC requirements. The NRC letters of February 1 and April 12, 1990, which you cited in your letter, transmitted to TVA formal Notices of Violation (NOVs) based on completed investigations of TVA activities, including some in which you had been involved. Consistent with our practice in issuing any NOV, copies of the synopses of the relevant investigation reports were included with these letters to ensure that TVA understood the basis for the proposed enforcement action. Subsequently, TVA requested a complete copy of one of these investigation reports. The NRC's April 17, 1990 letter to TVA responded to this request. Nevertheless, in light of your concerns that the NRC staff, in processing these enforcement actions, has unnecessarily impugned your integrity, we referred your October 10 letter to NRC's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for appropriate action. The OIG has reviewed this matter and has concluded that further inquiry is not warranted.

Although you may disagree with the content of these reports insofar as they refer to your activities, the Commission believes that their release to TVA was appropriate under the circumstances. Moreover, the enforcement actions we have taken against TVA represent final agency actions on the matters investigated.

Sincerely,

Kenneth M. Carr

cc: Inspector General