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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37902
TVA Mailroom

MAR 31 1983

Mr. John Marlar, Chief
Facilities Performance Branch
Water Management Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
345 Courtland Street, NE.
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

Dear Mr. Marlar:

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

Description of the discharge--Discharge No. 007 - Yard drainage pond
effluent. Grab samples collected at noon and 1:30 p.m. on March 14
had pH values of 9.31 and 9.33 standard units (s.u.), respectively,
exceeding the maximum permit limitation of 9.0 s.u.

Cause and period of the noncompliance--Plant employees were performing
maintenance work on a 4400-gallon capacity sodium hydroxide tank within
the temporary makeup water treatment plant when a valve was accidentally
damaged. Approximately 1200 gallons of sodium hydroxide was released to a
containment sump. An estimated 10 gallons reached a floor drain leading
to the yard drainage system. The material apparently passed through the
yard pond as a slug. A sample collected at noon on March 13 had a pH
value of 8.2 s.u., and a sample collected at 9:40 p.m. on March 14 had a
pH value of 8.64 s.u. Therefore, the period of noncompliance was less
than 34 hours.

Steps taken to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncomplying
discharge--The sodium hydroxide contained within the building sump was
pumped into plastic drums for reuse. Because of the accidental nature
of the incident leading to the noncompliance, no action is recommended
at this time. However, plant personnel performing maintenance work will
be instructed to exercise caution when working around chemical storage
facilities.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By
M. T. El-Ashry
Mohamed T. El-Ashry, Ph.D.
Director of Environmental
Quality

cc: See page 2

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Mr. John Marlar

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cc: Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Jack R. McCormick, Basin Manager
Chattanooga Basin Office
Division of Water Quality Control
2501 Milne Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37406

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

Tennessee Department of Public Health
Division of Water Quality Control
TERRA Building
150 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville, Tennessee 37203