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August 2, 1991
EN 91-046

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: Tennessee Valley Authority (EA 91-083)
(Browns Ferry Unit 2)
Docket No. 50-260

Subject: PROPOSED IMPOSITION OF CIVIL PENALTY - \$75,000

This is to inform the Commission that a Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty in the amount of \$75,000 will be issued on or about August 7, 1991 to Tennessee Valley Authority for a Severity Level III problem. This action is based on a violation of containment integrity at Browns Ferry, Unit 2 during startup testing. Specifically, both containment drywell airlock doors were open at the same time for about four hours with the reactor at less than 1% power. But for the low RCS pressure (150 psig) and reduced fission product inventory at the time of the event and the probability that primary containment integrity would have been established prior to a substantial change in power, the violation could have been more significant. No mitigation was applied for identification as the licensee had multiple opportunities to identify the problem earlier. A 50% mitigation was judged warranted for the licensee's extensive corrective actions. However, a 100% escalation was applied for the licensee's poor past performance.

It should be noted that the licensee has not been specifically informed of the enforcement action. The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Notice August 7, 1991
Telephone Notification of Licensee August 7, 1991

The State of Alabama will be notified.

The licensee has thirty days from the date of the Notice in which to respond. Following NRC evaluation of the response, the civil penalty may be remitted, mitigated, or imposed by Order.

Contact: W. Troskoski, OE, 23281 J. Lieberman, OE, 20741

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