



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

February 10, 1992

Docket Nos. 50-259  
and 50-296

Mr. Dan A. Nauman  
Senior Vice President, Nuclear Power  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
6N 38A Lookout Place  
1101 Market Place  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Dear Mr. Nauman:

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF LONG-TERM TORUS INTEGRITY PROGRAM FOR BROWNS FERRY  
NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 3 (TAC NOS. M80685 AND M80686)

- Reference<sup>c</sup>:
1. E.G. Wallace to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - PROGRAM FOR RESOLVING LONG-TERM TORUS INTEGRITY ISSUE PRIOR TO THE RESTART OF UNITS 1 AND 3," letter dated April 29, 1991.
  2. Domenic B. Vassallo to Hugh G. Parris, "MARK I CONTAINMENT LONG TERM PROGRAM," letter dated May 6, 1985.
  3. NUREG-1232, Volume 3, Supplement 2, "Safety Evaluation Report on Tennessee Valley Authority: Browns Ferry Nuclear Performance Plan," January, 1991.

In Reference 1, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted their proposed program to assure long-term integrity of the primary containment torus for Browns Ferry Units 1 and 3. The NRC staff has determined that this program does not affect the safety evaluations provided in References 2 and 3. Program implementation on Browns Ferry Units 1 and 3 will be verified by NRC inspection. This conclusion is discussed below.

Based upon its experience during the Browns Ferry Unit 2 recovery, TVA has proposed several changes to the torus inspections planned for Units 1 and 3. These are:

- deletion of four torus and torus-related structure inspection attributes which did not result in modifications on Unit 2,
- no inspections of non-safety related valve access platforms,
- inspections of non-safety related catwalks will be limited to welds and bolted connections associated with maintaining integrity of safety-related structures.

9202120239 920210  
PDR ADOCK 05000259  
P PDR

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

DFD/110

Mr. Dan A. Nauman

-2-

In 1985, the NRC staff provided its safety evaluation (Reference 2) accepting the long-term torus integrity program for all three Browns Ferry units. The Browns Ferry Unit 2 recovery process did not result in any revision to this evaluation, or the supporting design criteria. Subsequently, in 1991, the staff safety evaluation supporting Unit 2 restart (Reference 3) addressed only torus hardware deficiencies, not torus integrity design criteria previously approved by Reference 2.

Changes in the TVA torus inspection program do not affect the design criteria accepted by Reference 2. The effectiveness of these inspections by TVA to fulfill the conditions assumed by the staff SER (Reference 2) will be verified by the NRC inspection program. Therefore, prior staff approval of TVA's torus inspection program is not required.

TVA has also stated that torus-attached piping discrepancies in Browns Ferry Units 1 and 3 will be resolved in accordance with the Unit 2 criteria and implementation precedent. The Unit 2 program has been previously reviewed and approved by the staff, as documented in Reference 3. Therefore, the staff accepts this program for Units 1 and 3.

Please contact me at (301)504-1470 if you have any questions regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Joseph F. Williams, Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-4  
Division of Reactor Projects I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

\*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

PDII4/LA	PDII-4/PM	PDII-4/PM	EMEB*	ESGB*	PDII-4/D
MSanders <i>msd</i>	JWilliams <i>JFW</i>	TRoss <i>TRoss FOR TMR</i>	JNorberg	DJ for GBagchi	FHebdon <i>FHebdon</i>
2/10/92	2/10/92	2/10/92	1/30/92	1/29/92	2/10/92

cc;

Mr. Marvin Runyon, Chairman  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
ET 12A  
400 West Summit Hill Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. John B. Waters, Director  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
ET 12A  
400 West Summit Hill Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. W. H. Kenoy, Director  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
ET 12A  
400 West Summit Hill Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. W. F. Willis  
Senior Executive Officer  
ET 12B  
400 West Summit Hill Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

General Counsel  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
ET 11H  
400 West Summit Hill Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Mr. Dwight Nunn  
Vice President, Nuclear Projects  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
3B Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Dr. Mark O. Medford  
Vice President, Nuclear Assurance  
Licensing and Fuels  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
3B Lookout Place  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Mr. Mark J. Burzynski  
Manager, Nuclear Licensing  
and Regulatory Affairs  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
3B Lookout Place  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Mr. O. J. Zeringue, Site Vice President  
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
P. O. Box 2000  
Decatur, Alabama 35609

Mr. R. R. Baron, Site Licensing Manager  
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
P. O. Box 2000  
Decatur, Alabama 35609

Mr. J. A. Scalice, Plant Manager  
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
P. O. Box 2000  
Decatur, Alabama 35609

Chairman, Limestone County Commission  
P. O. Box 188  
Athens, Alabama 35611

Claude Earl Fox, M.D.  
State Health Officer  
State Department of Public Health  
State Office Building  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Regional Administrator, Region II  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
101 Marietta Street, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Mr. Charles Patterson  
Senior Resident Inspector  
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Route 12, Box 637  
Athens, Alabama 35611

Tennessee Valley Authority  
Rockville Office  
11921 Rockville Pike  
Suite 402  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Distribution

Docket File

NRC PDR

Local PDR

S. Varga 14-E-4

G. Lainas 14-H-3

F. Hebdon

B. Wilson RII

P. Kellogg RII

C. Patterson RII

L. Reyes RII

J. Williams

T. Ross

OGC

M. Sanders

BFN Rdg. file

EMEB 7-D-2

ESGB 7-H-15