



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 202 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-68

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 3

DOCKET NO. 50-296

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated September 13, 1995, the Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) Unit 3. The proposed changes would revise TS Table 4.2.B by removing the requirement to perform daily instrument checks for the Steam Supply Low Pressure and Turbine Exhaust Diaphragm high Pressure for both the Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC) and High Pressure Coolant Injection (HPCI) systems, and corrects an editorial error.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The proposed change to TS Table 4.2.B deletes the requirement for instrument checks for instrumentation used to trip and isolate the RCIC and HPCI systems on either low steam supply pressure or high turbine exhaust pressure. These instrument channels have no method of indication; therefore, the performance of instrument checks is not appropriate.

The requirement for a daily instrument check for these instrument channels had been added in error by TS-243 (submitted June 13, 1988). That TS change added the instrument channels for the RCIC and HPCI steam supply low pressure and turbine exhaust diaphragm high pressure to TS Tables 3.2.B and 4.2.B for BFN Units 1, 2, and 3. The proposed surveillance requirements included daily instrument checks. TS-243 was issued on September 23, 1988.

The change to Table 4.2.C corrects a typographical error made during the retyping and reformatting of the TS that occurred in 1987. The source range monitor (SRM) Upscale functional test incorrectly references note 15 (Flow Bias Comparator). The correct reference should be note 13. This note is correctly referenced in previous revisions to Unit 3 TS Table 4.2.C and in the current TS for Units 1 and 2.

3.0 EVALUATION

The proposed change to Table 4.2.B corrects an error introduced during a previous TS change. That TS change added the requirement to perform

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instrument checks for pressure switches. This error has been previously corrected for Unit 2. As defined by TS, an instrument check is a qualitative determination of acceptable Operability by observation of instrument behavior during operation. The pressure switches associated with these RCIC and HPCI instrument channels have no indication function; therefore, an instrument check is not appropriate. These instruments are functionally tested once per 31 days and calibration tests are performed once per 18 months as required by TS surveillance requirements. This required testing verifies the operability of these instrument channels. The staff agrees an instrument check would serve no purpose for these instruments. Therefore, the proposed change is acceptable.

The change to Table 4.2.C corrects a typographical error that was introduced during earlier retyping and reformatting of the Unit 3 TS. This change correctly references the functional test of the SRM Upscale function to note 13 instead of note 15. The staff finds the proposed change is appropriate and acceptable.

#### 4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Alabama State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

#### 5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change requirements with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes the surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (60 FR 52935). Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

#### 6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based upon the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Dated: November 13, 1995

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BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

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