

Tennessee Valley Authority. Post Office Box 2000. Soddy-Daisy. Tennessee: 37379.

December 18, 1995

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ATTN: Document Control Desk Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of Tennessee Valley Authority Docket Nos. 50-327

50-328

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) - CONTROL ROD DRIVE THERMAL SLEEVE GUIDE FUNNEL FAILURE (TAC NO. M90443)

Reference: NRC letter to TVA dated October 27, 1994

The purpose of this letter is to provide the requested information detailed in the referenced letter. Items to be considered and TVA's response are listed below.

 TVA should consider incorporating "steps in the refueling procedures to perform visual or TV camera inspection of the top of the internals structure when the head is removed."

Response: This request has been incorporated into SQN Maintenance Instruction O-MI-MRR-068-005.0, "Removal of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Attachments."

2. TVA should "commit to periodically monitor the condition of the welded connection between the CRDM thermal sleeve guide tube and the nozzle to determine if the performance meets expectations."

Response: The assembly method uses standard welding and engineering calculations previously used in the original vessel assembly. TVA contends that the funnel weld is adequate and further inspections are not required. However, if TVA decides to weld the remaining funnels during the Unit 2 Cycle 7 refueling outage, then an inspection of the previously welded funnels will be performed. The final decision will be based on both available plant resources and ALARA considerations. Westinghouse Electric Corporation was involved in and approved this new design.

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3. TVA should "conduct a TV camera survey of all funnel attachments prior to setting the vessel head on the storage stand. This survey should include an assessment of the integrity of the funnels by evaluating elevation differences and close inspection of the thermocouple column funnel pins."

Response: For Unit 1, this inspection is no longer required since all the guide and thermocouple funnels were welded to their respective head penetration during the past Cycle 7 refueling outage. For Unit 2, all the guide funnels were inspected during its Cycle 6 refueling outage; therefore, additional inspections are not required at this time. As discussed in (1) above, TVA may elect to weld all the funnels during the upcoming refueling if resources and ALARA concerns permit the modifications.

Please direct questions concerning this issue to Bill Ludwig at (423) 843-7460.

Sincerely,

R. H. Shell

P. H. Stell

Manager

SQN Site Licensing

cc: Mr. D. E. LaBarge, Project Manager Nuclear Regulatory Commission One White Flint, North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, Maryland 20852-2739

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