



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

May 5, 1992

Docket No. 50-328

Tennessee Valley Authority  
ATTN: Dr. Mark O. Medford, Vice President  
Nuclear Assurance, Licensing & Fuels  
3B Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Dear Dr. Medford:

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, SECTION XI, HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE TEST REQUIREMENTS, SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2 (TAC NOS. M82975, M83026, M83189)

The purpose of this letter is to address requests submitted by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), licensee for the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, for relief from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code, Section XI, hydrostatic test requirements for certain check valves that were replaced during the Unit 2, Cycle 5 refueling outage. The requests were submitted by letters dated March 17, 1992 (for valves 2-VLV-63-587, 588, and 547), March 25, 1992 (for valve 2-VLV-63-589), and April 17, 1992 (for valve 2-VLV-63-559). All of these valves are located in piping connecting the reactor coolant system to the emergency core cooling system. Subsequent to the March 17, 1992 submittal, TVA informed the staff that tests of valve 2-VLV-63-547 indicated that replacement was not necessary and withdrew this valve from the relief request.

TVA proposed, as an alternative method to Code hydrostatic tests, to perform certain reduced pressure tests (as specified in each submittal) of each of the new welds and components while in Mode 3. Each new weld will be visually inspected for leakage and the required nondestructive examination will be performed on each new weld to meet construction code requirements. The staff has evaluated TVA's request for relief and, as discussed in the enclosed safety evaluation, has determined that the imposition of the hydrostatic test requirements would result in hardship or unusual difficulties without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety.

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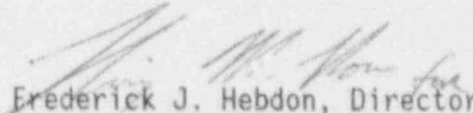
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1/11

Mr. Mark O. Medford

- 2 -

Therefore, based on the enclosed safety evaluation and pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii), TVA is authorized to use the proposed alternative tests for check valves 2-VLV-63-587, 588, 589, and 559.

Sincerely,

  
Frederick J. Hebdon, Director  
Project Directorate II-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - 1/11  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

\*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

OFC	PDII4/LA	PDII-4/PM <i>DeV</i>	OGC	PDII-4/D
NAME	MSander <i>MS</i>	DLaBarge:dw	MYoung*	FHebdon <i>FH</i>
DATE	5/5/92	5/5/92	5/5/92	5/5/92 <i>for</i>

Mr. Mark O. Medford

- 2 -

Therefore, based on the enclosed safety evaluation and pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii), TVA is authorized to use the proposed alternative tests for check valves 2-VLV-63-587, 588, 589, and 559.

Sincerely,

David E. LaBarge, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-4  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

OFC	PDII4/LA	PDII-4/PM <i>DL</i>	OGC <i>W. Young</i>	PDII-4/D
NAME	MSanders <i>MS</i>	DLaBarge:dw	<i>W. Young</i>	FHebdon
DATE	5/5/92	5/5/92	5/5/92	5/ /92

Tennessee Valley Authority  
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Sequoyah Nuclear Plant

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M. Banic

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