

May 18, 1992

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260,
and 50-296

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

Dear Dr. Medford:

SUBJECT: ASME CODE CASE N-491 (TAC NOS. M81952, M81953, AND M81954)

By letter dated October 23, 1991, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) requested approval pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3) to implement the alternative rules of ASME Section XI Code Case N-491 dated March 14, 1991, entitled "Alternative Rules for Examination of Class 1, 2, 3, and MC Component Supports of Light-Water Cooled Power Plants Section XI, Division 1," for all of its nuclear facilities.

The NRC staff has completed its safety evaluation of TVA's request, and concluded that Code Case N-491 is an acceptable alternative, in both quality and safety, to the current ASME Section XI Code requirements for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFNP), Units 1, 2, and 3. The use of Code Case N-491 at other TVA facilities is still under staff evaluation and will be addressed by separate correspondence. The staff's conclusions and technical rationale for BFNP are documented in the enclosed Safety Evaluation (SE).

Based upon the enclosed SE and pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), TVA is hereby authorized to employ ASME Code Case N-491 at BFNP as an acceptable alternative to the current ASME Section XI Code requirements.

Sincerely,

D. LaBarge *for*

Fredrick J. Hebdon, Director
Project Directorate II-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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OFC	PDII-4/LA <i>MS</i>	PDII-4/PM	PDII-4/PM	EMCB <i>W. Medford</i>	OGC <i>W. Medford</i>	PDII-4/D <i>F. Hebdon</i>
NAME	MSanders	TRoss <i>TR</i>	JWilliams <i>JW</i>	JTWiggins	<i>W. Medford</i>	FHebdon
DATE	5/17/92	5/12/92	5/12/92	5/12/92	5/16/92	5/18/92

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PDR ADOCK 05000259
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W. Medford
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Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

Tennessee Valley Authority
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cc:

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