

July 24, 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: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALIFICATION OF BRAND REX CABLES AT THE BROWNS FERRY
NUCLEAR PLANT

In NUREG-1232, Volume 3, Supplement 2, "Safety Evaluation Report on Tennessee Valley Authority: Browns Ferry Nuclear Performance Plan - Browns Ferry Unit 2 Restart," the NRC staff concluded that the technical rationale provided by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to justify the operability of Unit 2 Brand Rex cables for one more fuel cycle (i.e., Cycle 6) was acceptable. However, the capability of Brand Rex cables to perform their intended safety functions for subsequent fuel cycles would be indeterminate until TVA could prove that these cables were environmentally qualified. This issue was identified as a post-restart open item for Unit 2 that TVA committed to resolve before restart of Unit 2 from the next refueling outage.

By letter dated April 21, 1992, TVA stated that it had completed additional testing to verify the environmental qualification (EQ) of Brand Rex cables for the design life of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN). In summary, TVA concluded that the capability of Brand Rex cables to perform their intended safety functions for a qualified life of 30 years was unaffected by the previously discovered insulation material anomalies. The staff reviewed TVA's EQ test report and determined it was acceptable (as documented in Section 2.3 of Appendix Y to NUREG-0847, Supplement 9, dated June 1992). Based on TVA's letter and the staff's review of the EQ report, the staff considers the Unit 2 post-restart open item regarding Brand Rex cables to be closed.

Sincerely,

Thierry M. Ross
Thierry M. Ross, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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DATE	7/24/92	7/24/92	7/24/92	7/24/92	

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Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

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