



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee 37379

December 13, 1996

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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of
Tennessee Valley Authority

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Docket Nos. 50-327

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) - NRC BULLETIN 96-01, "CONTROL ROD
INSERTION PROBLEMS" REPORT

Reference: TVA letter to NRC dated April 5, 1996, Sequoyah Nuclear Plant (SQN)
and Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) Response To NRC Bulletin 96-01,
"Control Rod Insertion Problems" dated March 8, 1996

TVA is providing the rod-drop time data for the recent Unit 1 maintenance outage of November 1996, as committed in response to NRC Bulletin 96-01. The data for the rod-drop tests performed on November 17, 1996, and the fuel burnup times are included as an enclosure to this letter. The rod-drop times and fuel burnup for each rodged fuel assembly at the start of the Unit 1 Cycle 8 operation is also included for comparison. The rod-drop times measured were shorter than the corresponding times recorded at the beginning of the fuel cycle. This change is most probably due to the measuring inaccuracies of the test as opposed to any real changes in rod-drop time. The rod-drop times for both data dates were well within the required time limit of less than 2.7 seconds. The control and shutdown rods exhibited rod recoil during the November test. During the reactor trip initiated on November 16, 1996, all rods fully inserted into the core with no observed discrepancies.

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Please direct questions concerning this issue to Keith Weller at (423) 843-7527.

Sincerely,

R.H. Shell

R. H. Shell
Manager
SQN Site Licensing and Industry Affairs

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 13th day of December 1996

Brenda L. Coffman
Notary Public
My Commission Expires 10/21/98

Enclosure
cc: See page 3

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cc (Enclosure):

Mr. R. W. Hernan, Project Manager
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint, North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2739

NRC Resident Inspector
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
2600 Igou Ferry Road
Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee 37379-2000

Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323-2711

ENCLOSURE

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT
UNIT 1 MAINTENANCE OUTAGE, NOVEMBER 1996
Unit 1 Cycle 8 Burnup vs Rod Position

ROD	BURNUP		TYPE	DROP TIMES Sec	
	11/08/95	11/15/96		11/08/95	11/17/96
SA D14	33897.43	40896.03	STD	1.6	1.34
SA B12	33551.2	40535.45	STD	1.5	1.26
SA M14	33709.7	40719.74	STD	1.6	1.38
SA P12	33876.41	40884.72	STD	1.7	1.26
SA P4	33427.16	40428.23	STD	1.6	1.26
SA M2	33764.09	40774.31	STD	1.7	1.38
SA D2	33870.27	40861.33	STD	1.6	1.36
SA B4	34438.82	41503.49	STD	1.7	1.26
SB J13	17712.19	30594.04	V5H	1.6	1.26
SB G13	17781.48	30770.54	V5H	1.6	1.28
SB N9	17774.65	30758.71	V5H	1.5	1.24
SB N7	17811.04	30764.78	V5H	1.6	1.26
SB C9	17845.39	30824.12	V5H	1.6	1.28
SB C7	17747.36	30711.49	V5H	1.6	1.25
SB J3	17778.06	30764.62	V5H	1.6	1.28
SB G3	17845.39	30824.12	V5H	1.6	1.28
SC L13	0	16551.23	V5H	1.5	1.28
SC C11	0	16553.22	V5H	1.3	1.26
SC N5	0	16563.6	V5H	1.6	1.32
SC E3	0	16556.93	V5H	1.7	1.28
SD E13	0	16578.52	V5H	1.5	1.28
SD N11	0	16581.63	V5H	1.5	1.24
SD C5	0	16561.56	V5H	1.6	1.26
SD L3	0	16579.52	V5H	1.6	1.28
CA K8	0	17074.5	V5H	1.7	1.28
CA H10	0	17053.42	V5H	1.4	1.28
CA H6	0	17037.23	V5H	1.6	1.24
CA F8	0	17041.89	V5H	1.7	1.28
CB K14	0	15066.76	V5H	1.7	1.39
CB F14	0	15096.67	V5H	1.6	1.36
CB P10	0	15071.86	V5H	1.6	1.24
CB B10	0	15069.58	V5H	1.6	1.24
CB P6	0	15105.77	V5H	1.7	1.3
CB B6	0	15132.59	V5H	1.6	1.34
CB K2	0	15072.58	V5H	1.7	1.34
CB F2	0	15106.19	V5H	1.7	1.33
CC H2	0	15374.8	V5H	1.6	1.31
CC K6	19381.43	33233.85	V5H	1.7	1.28
CC F6	19376.64	33225.63	V5H	1.7	1.26
CC P8	0	15381.94	V5H	1.6	1.26
CC B8	0	15358.22	V5H	1.6	1.26
CC K10	19393.16	33253.97	V5H	1.6	1.34
CC F10	19390.82	33249.95	V5H	1.6	1.26
CC H14	0	15362.35	V5H	1.7	1.3

Unit 1 Cycle 8 Burnup vs Rod Position

ROD	BURNUP		TYPE	DROP TIMES Sec	
	11/08/95	11/15/96		11/08/95	11/17/96
CD M12	16382.61	31484.21	V5H	1.7	1.25
CD H12	0	16896.21	V5H	1.6	1.26
CD D12	16390.4	31499.18	V5H	1.6	1.26
CD M8	0	16925.41	V5H	1.6	1.26
CD H8	18049.41	32097.08	V5H	1.6	1.38
CD D8	0	16876	V5H	1.6	1.26
CD M4	16392.24	31502.71	V5H	1.6	1.28
CD H4	0	16882.97	V5H	1.6	1.26
CD D4	16396.02	31509.98	V5H	1.7	1.28

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JDS:KCW:EAM

cc (Enclosure):

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