Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Decatur, Alabamin 35609-2000

Christopher M. (Chris) Crane Vice President, Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

March 3, 1997

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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of Docket Nos. 50-259
Tennessee Valley Authority 50-260
50-296

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - ANNUAL OPERATING REPORT FOR JANUARY 1, 1996 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1996

This letter provides, in the enclosure, the BFN Annual Operating Report (AOR) from January 1, 1996 through December 31, 1996. TVA is submitting the AOR in accordance with BFN Technical Specifications (TS) sections 6.9.1.2, 6.9.2.1, and 10 CFR 50.59(b)(2).

The enclosed report contains a summary of plant conditions, occupational exposure data, challenges to, or failures of, main steam relief valves, and reactor vessel fatigue usage. The report also deta is gaseous and liquid releases. This information is required by TS sections 6.9.1.2 and 6.9.2.1. In addition, this report contains safety evaluations prepared for revisions to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, plant procedures (new and revised), special operating conditions, special tests, temporary alterations; and, plant modifications that were field completed during this reporting period. This information is required by 10 CFR 50.59(b)(2).

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Also included in this report is a summary of docketed commitments that TVA has evaluated and revised using administrative controls that incorporate the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI) "Guideline For Managing NRC Commitments." It should be noted that BFN was one of the six licensee participants in the NRC pilot program for managing/changing commitments using the NEI guidelines.

There are no commitments contained in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (205) 729-3675.

Sincerely,

C. Merane

Enclosure

cc (Enclosure):

Mr. Mark S. Lesser, Branch Chief U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Pegion II 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900 Atlanta, Georgia 30323

NRC Resident Inspector Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant 10833 Shaw Road Athens, Alabama 35611

Mr. J. F. Williams, Project Manager U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission One White Flint, North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, Maryland 20852