TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

5N 157B Lookout Place

FEB 29 1988

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

Gentlemen:

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In the Matter of Tennessee Valley Authority Docket Nos. 50-327 50-328

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) - SILICONE RUBBER CABLE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALIFICATION

Reference: Letter from NRC to TVA dated February 23, 1988, "Non-Nuclear Heatup for Sequoyah Unit 2 Pr'or to Restart (TAC R00253)"

TVA plans to extend the qualified life of the silicone rubber cables for the expected life of SQN before the return to service from the first refueling outage after restart (unit 2 cycle 3). TVA intends to meet the schedule and will make every reasonable effort to do so. If for unforeseen reasons schedule problems arise, TVA will promptly inform NRC and provide the status and results of testing already completza.

It has always been TVA's intention to extend the qualified life of the silicone rubber cables as quickly as practical. The unit 2 cycle 3 refueling outage has been considered as an early target. However, the qualification program involves contractual arrangements that may affect the schedule. In addition, ongoing and relevant industry work may improve the qualification program; and TVA may be in a position to take advantage of such changes.

The silicone rubber cable installed at SQN currently has a qualified life of ten years of service plus the ability to withstand accident conditions. This qualified life provides a sufficient level of safety for several more cycles of operations at SQN that will extend beyond unit 2 cycle 4.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

R. Gridley, Director Nuclear Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

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cc: Mr. K. P. Barr, Acting Assistant Director for Inspection Programs TVA Projects Division U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region II 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900 Atlanta, Georgia 30323

> Mr. G. G. Zech, Assistant Director for Projects TVA Projects Division U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Comm on One White Flint, North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, Maryland 20052

Sequoyah Resident Inspector Sequoyah Nuclear Planu 2600 Igou Ferry Road Soddy Daisy, Tennessee 37379