

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
President, TVA Nuclear and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

July 8, 1997

SUBJECT: RELIEF REQUEST - BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 3
RELIEF REQUEST 3-ISI-1 (TAC NO. M97805)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

By letter dated January 22, 1997, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Section XI inservice inspection (ISI) and system pressure test (SPT) programs for the second inspection interval for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) Unit 3. This submittal included relief request 3-ISI-1 regarding successive examination requirements for 10 reactor vessel shell weld indications.

The NRC staff and its contractor, the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), has reviewed TVA relief request 3-ISI-1. As documented in the enclosed safety evaluation, relief request 3-ISI-1 is not authorized.

Please call Joe Williams at (301)415-1470 if you have any questions regarding this topic.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Frederick J. Hebdon, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-296

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc: See next page

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*see previous concurrence

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