

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
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Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
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July 17, 1997

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 2 AND 3 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION REGARDING TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF DIESEL GENERATOR
ALLOWED OUTAGE TIME (TAC NOS. M99061 AND M99062)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

On June 19, 1997, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) requested amendments to the operating licenses for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Units 2 and 3. The proposed amendments temporarily extend the allowed outage time from 7 to 14 days for the site emergency diesel generators to accommodate extensive preventive maintenance recommended by the vendor. The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has examined TVA's request, and has determined additional information is required to complete its review. The required information is discussed in the enclosure.

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

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Joseph F. Williams, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-260 and 50-296

Enclosure: Request for Additional
Information

cc w/Enclosure: See next page

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Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
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BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

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BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

UNITS 2 AND 3

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATOR ALLOWED OUTAGE TIME

1. Provide a description of work to be performed during the planned 12-year diesel generator preventive maintenance outage. Include schedules for this work, assuming:
 - a. All activities are completed within a single outage.
 - b. Activities are split between two or more outages.
2. Describe how these activities were accommodated during previous 12-year preventive maintenance outages.
3. Current technical specification (TS) 3.9.D.1 reads as follows:

Whenever standby gas treatment is required to be OPERABLE in accordance with Specification 3.7.B and/or control room emergency ventilation is required to be OPERABLE in accordance with Specification 3.7.E, the associated diesel generator aligned to supply emergency power to that equipment shall be OPERABLE.

- a. Standby gas treatment train A and/or control room emergency ventilation train A - Diesel generator 1/2A or 1/2B.
- b. Standby gas treatment train B - Diesel generator 1/2D or 1/2B.
- c. Standby gas treatment train C - Diesel generator 3D.
- d. Control room emergency ventilation train B - Diesel generator 3C or 3B.

This specification apparently requires that certain diesel generators be operable in order to consider standby gas treatment and control room emergency ventilation trains to be operable. In cases (a), (b), and (d), either of two diesel generators can fulfill this function. In case (c), only diesel generator 3D can be used in order to consider standby gas treatment train C to be operable. TS 3.7.B.3 allows reactor power operation and fuel handling to continue only for the succeeding 7 days with one train of standby gas treatment inoperable. Therefore, even if the allowed outage time for diesel generator 3D is extended to 14 days, it appears that TS 3.7.B.3 would not permit reactor power operation for more than 7 days.

ENCLOSURE

Page E1-2 of TVA's June 19, 1997 submittal states that TS 1.C.2 provides that, when the units are operating, the diesel generator limiting condition for operation governs the operability related to temporary unavailability of on-site power sources, provided that all redundant systems and subsystems are available. However, the staff believes that TS 3.9.D.1.c governs the case if diesel generator 3D is inoperable, because it provides specific requirements for that case.

Therefore, the staff requests that TVA either provide additional information which demonstrates that TS 3.9.D.1.c will not result in invocation of TS 3.7.B.3 if diesel generator 3D is inoperable for more than 7 days, or provide additional TS changes eliminating this problem, including appropriate justification for those changes.