

essee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Decatur, Alabama 35609

October 1, 1998

TVA-BFN-TS-356

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 -WITHDRAWAL OF TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION (TS) CHANGE NO. 356 AND COST BENEFICIAL LICENSING ACTION 08 - INCREASE IN ALLOWABLE MAIN STEAM ISOLATION VALVE (MSIV) LEAKAGE RATE AND REQUEST FOR EXEMPTIONS FROM 10 CFR 50, APPENDIX J, OPTION A, SECTIONS II.H.4, III.C.2(A), AND III.C.3, 10 CFR 50, APPENDIX J, OPTION B, AND 10 CFR 100, APPENDIX A, SECTION VI(A)

The purpose of this letter is to inform NRC of TVA's decision to withdraw proposed TS Change No. 356, Increase in Allowable MSIV Leakage Rate and Cost Beneficial Licensing Action 08. TS-356 was submitted on December 22, 1995 and supplemented by TVA letter dated April 12, 1996.

TS-356 was submitted as a pilot application in support of the collaborative efforts of the Electric Power Research Institute, Nuclear Energy Institute, and the NRC for the implementation of the NRC research efforts documented in NUREG-1465, "Accident Source Terms for Light-Water Nuclear Power Plants." TVA committed substantial resources to the development of the pilot application and the April 12, 1996 supplement, which provided additional information requested by NRC.

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In a July 28, 1998 letter, NRC informed TVA of the status of the revised source term rulemaking, and provided TVA with a request for additional information which resulted from its initial review of TS-356. TVA was also informed that the staff expects to identify additional questions following the completion of a detailed review. In addition, NRC stated its intent to complete the review of the pilot applications in 1998. Following receipt of the July 28, 1998 letter, TVA reevaluated the estimated engineering and licensing resources which will be required to complete the TS-356 pilot application. TVA has concluded that current site pricrities and resource allocations preclude BFN's continued participation in the pilot application project. Consequently, TVA has decided to withdraw TS-356.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please telephone me at (256) 729-2636.

Sincerely

Manager of Licensing and Industry Affairs

cc: See page 3

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cc: Chairman
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