

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONTENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITYDOCKET NO. 50-259NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted a request by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to withdraw its June 21, 1996, application for an amendment to Facility Operating License DPR-33 issued to TVA for the operation of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, located in Limestone County, Alabama. The application was supplemented by letter dated February 7, 1997. Notice of consideration of issuance of this amendment was published in the *Federal Register* on August 14, 1996 (61 FR 42285).

The proposed amendment, submitted in custom technical specification format, would have provided a new safety limit minimum critical power ratio (SLMCPR) to replace the existing non-conservative value. The proposed amendment also would have updated a technical specification bases to clarify the usage of the residual heat removal supplemental spent fuel pool cooling mode.

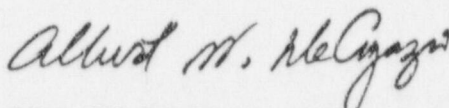
On May 7, 1997, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued the Bases change, however, no further action was taken on the remainder of the application pending TVA documentation of completion of analyses related to the SLMCPR for Unit 1. On July 14, 1998, the NRC issued Amendment No. 234 to Operating License DPR-33. Amendment No. 234 converted the Unit 1 custom technical specifications, which were in effect at the time the June 21, 1996, application was submitted, into the standard technical specification format. Thus, the NRC was unable to take any further action upon the June 21, 1996, application. TVA's

letter of October 13, 1998, informed the staff that the requested changes are no longer needed. Furthermore, since TVA does not now have a firm schedule for the restart of Unit 1, any changes associated with the SLMCPR will be resubmitted prior to Unit 1 restart.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated June 21, 1996, TVA's letters dated February 7, 1997, and October 13, 1998, and the staff's letter dated September 22, 1998, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC and at the local public document room located at the Athens Public Library, 405 E. South Street, Athens, Alabama.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 4th day of November 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission



Albert W. De Agazio, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation