



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SUPPLEMENT TO
SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 259 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-52,
AND AMENDMENT NO. 218 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-68
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 2 AND 3
DOCKET NOS. 50-260 AND 50-296

1.0 BACKGROUND

On August 2, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued Amendments Nos. 259 and 218 to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-52 and DPR-68 for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 2 and 3, respectively.

The amendments changed the Technical Specification (TS) COMPLETION TIME for REQUIRED ACTION 3.8.1.B.4 for Units 2 and 3 from existing 7 days to 14 days. This permits an extension of the allowed outage time from 7 days to 14 days for an inoperable emergency diesel generator.

The staff's evaluation of the licensee's August 2, 1999, application encompassed a review of information presented in the licensee's March 12, 1997 application, and in letters dated March 30, 1999, April 23, 1999, and June 18, 1999. The staff also considered information provided in the licensee's submittals dated June 19, 1997 and August 15, 1997 regarding a one-time extension of emergency diesel generator (EDG) allowed outage time (AOT) from 7 days to 14 days. The one-time extensions were approved as Amendment Nos. 250 and 209, respectively, for Units 2 and 3.

2.0 ERROR IN SAFETY EVALUATION

The Safety Evaluation enclosed with the August 2, 1999, amendments encompassed both a deterministic and a probabilistic evaluation. The deterministic evaluation included a discussion of compensatory measures, incorrectly stating:

3.1.4 Compensatory Measures

To limit other activities to minimize the potential for a loss of offsite power sources, and to maximize the availability of other onsite sources, the licensee implements the following compensatory measures during EDG maintenance outages:

- (1) Ensures availability of an extra offsite power source available to the affected unit, above and beyond the two offsite sources required by the TS;

- (2) Restricts work activities that could affect the ability to cross-tie the opposite EDG unit to the 4-kV shutdown board; and
- (3) Restricts work activities on the 500-kV switchyard and stop scheduling high risk switchyard maintenance.

The probabilistic evaluation in Section 3.2.2 correctly stated:

The licensee did not identify additional TS restrictions or compensatory measures required to avoid potential risk significant configurations during an EDG outage.

The compensatory measures identified in Section 3.1.4 of the August 2, 1999, safety evaluation were commitments of the application dated June 19, 1997 and applied only to the no-longer-effective one-time extension.

In preparing this supplement, the staff reconsidered the need for interim compensatory measures such as those specified in temporary Amendment Nos. 250 (Unit 2) and 209 (Unit 3). The staff concluded that, with respect to the deterministic evaluation, and consistent with the probabilistic evaluation, no specific compensatory-measures commitment is necessary in conjunction with the additional 7-days AOT. This finding was based on the uniquely high degree of redundancy and flexibility of the Browns Ferry power distribution system. These redundancy and flexibility features include: a 500-kV switchyard with seven offsite power sources, a 161-kV switchyard with two offsite power sources, four EDGs per operating unit, and a bus tie board which provides shutdown board intertie capability among the eight EDGs.

3.0 CORRECTION

This supplement resolves an error in the original August 2, 1999, Safety Evaluation, clarifying the fact that the licensee has not committed to retain those specific compensatory measures that were applied to the one-time extension, and confirms that this does not alter the conclusions of the August 2, 1999, Safety Evaluation.

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