TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
Post Office Box 2000
Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee 37379

May 21, 1987

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY - SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 1 - DOCKET NO. 50-327 - FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-77 - SPECIAL REPORT 87-04

The enclosed special report provides details concerning the meteorological instrumentation being inoperable greater than seven days due to an unknown component failure. This event is reported in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73, paragraph a.2.i.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

L. M. Nobles
Plant Manager

Enclosure
cc (Enclosure):

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NRC Inspector, Sequoyah Nuclear Plant

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SPECIAL REPORT 87-04
SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT
UNITS 1 AND 2

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On May 2, 1987, at 1750 EST with both units in mode 5 (0 percent power, 337 psig, 120 degrees F and 0 percent power, 260 psig, 129 degrees F, respectively), the meteorological instrumentation was declared inoperable, and Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.3.3.4 was entered. At present (May 19, 1987), the meteorological instrumentation has not been returned to service. The Instrument Mechanics have been investigating the problem and have yet to determine the cause of this event. LCO 3.3.3.4, action statement (a), requires a special report to be written if the meteorological instrumentation is out longer than seven days. The LCO will be complied with until the instrumentation is returned to service.

CAUSE OF EVENT

This event is still under investigation. Instrument Maintenance has indicated that a component failure somewhere in the Auxiliary Relay Rack 0-R-110 may have caused this problem. However, the exact component has not been located. Upon completion of the investigation and correction of the problem, this special report will be revised to detail the results.

ANALYSIS OF EVENT

This event is being reported under the requirements of action statement (a) of LCO 3.3.3.4. The meteorological tower equipment measures the wind direction, wind speed, and air temperature. These parameters are used to determine plume conditions in the event of an unexpected radioactive release to the environment. With both units in mode 5, it is highly unlikely that such an accident could occur. Also, the meteorological data could be obtained from meteorological tower since the computer has been operable during this event. Had the plant been in a different operating condition, the significance of this event would be unchanged since the meteorological information is used to monitor an accident. It is not used to assist in mitigating an accident. The health and safety of the public is not endangered by this event.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

No corrective actions have yet transpired. Instrument Maintenance is working diligently to correct this problem. This report will be revised by August 7, 1987, detailing the corrective action taken to return the meteorological instrumentation to an operable status.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There has been one previous special report written on the meteorological instrumentation being out of service more than seven days - Special Report 87-03.

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