UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY DOCKET NO. 50-259 NOTICE OF DENIAL OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has denied a request by the Tennessee Valley Authority (licensee), for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-33 issued to the licensee for operation of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 1, located in Limestone County, Alabama. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on February 15, 1997 (62 FR 2194).

The purpose of the licensee's amendment request was to revise the Technical Specifications (TS) to permit increasing the main steam safety/relief valve set point tolerance to plus or minus 3%.

The NRC staff has concluded that the licensee's request to increase the main steam safety relief valve set point tolerance cannot be granted at this time. The licensee was notified of the Commission's denial of the proposed change by a letter dated April 22, 1998.

By May 28, 1998, the licensee may demand a hearing with respect to the denial described above. Any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a written petition for leave to intervene.

A request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date.

9805040114 98

7590-01

A copy of any petitions should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to General Counsel, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, ET I0H, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, attorney for the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated December 11, 1996, and (2) the Commission's letter to the licensee dated April 22, 1998.

These documents 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 22 day of April 1998.

For The Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Frederick J. Hebdon, Director Project Directorate II-3 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation