

December 31, 1987

Docket Nos. 50-327, 50-328
License Nos. DPR-77, DPR-79

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. S. A. White
Manager of Nuclear Power
6N 38A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: CRITERIA FOR SEPARATION OF SAFETY-RELATED CONDUITS (NRC INSPECTION
REPORT NOS. 50-327/87-18 AND 50-328/87-18)

This letter refers to Unresolved Item (URI) 87-18-01, identified during a special testing inspection conducted by an NRC team at the Sequoyah facility during March 16-17 and April 13-17, 1987, and reported in NRC Inspection Reports 50-327/87-18 and 50-328/87-18.

During the inspection of installed components, the inspection team identified several instances in which the physical separation between redundant divisional cable trays and conduits was less than the Sequoyah Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) specified distances for cable trays. Although the FSAR does not provide specific criteria for physical separation of conduits which contain safety-related circuits, our technical evaluation of this issue has determined that the requirements for separation of cable tray delineated in Section 8.3.1.4.2 should be applied to conduit. Therefore, since adequate physical separation of conduit containing safety-related circuits is essential to safe operation of the Sequoyah facility, the lack of design and installation criteria in this area raised significant questions regarding the quality of existing safety-related conduit installations.

In response to this concern you are requested to provide analyses to demonstrate that electrical faults in one raceway (conduit or cable-tray) will not cause internally generated fires that affect the functional integrity of redundant safety-related circuits in adjacent raceways. This concern needs to be resolved prior to restart of the Sequoyah units and therefore your response is requested within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

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In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NPC's "Rules of Practice" Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter, and any reply will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter please contact us.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
B. D. Liaw for

Steven D. Richardson,
Acting Director
TVA Projects Division
Office of Special Projects

Recently, I sent you an overnight package with a copy of the Regional Office Instruction No. 1306, Rev. 2. In reference to the ROI, IMS is requesting that your RITS input be submitted to them by 12:00 noon each Monday. We will need your input by Friday, so that we can meet the deadline.

cc: H. L. Abercrombie, Site Director

Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
J. A. Kirkebo, Director,
Nuclear Engineering
R. L. Gridley, Director
Nuclear Safety and Licensing
M. R. Harding, Site Licensing
Manager
TVA Representative, Bethesda
Office

bcc: S. D. Ebner, OSP
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