

Mr. O. J. Zeringue
Chief Nuclear Officer
and Executive Vice President
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

May 20, 1998

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY, UNIT 3, INDIVIDUAL PLANT EXAMINATION (IPE) AND UNIT 2
MULTI-UNIT PRA - GENERIC LETTER 88-20 (TAC NO. M74384)

Dear Mr. Zeringue:

On April 14, 1995, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted the multi-unit probabilistic risk assessment (MUPRA) for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN), Units 1, 2 and 3. The MUPRA was submitted to resolve the staff's concerns regarding risk implications of operating all three reactors at the BFN site. On June 19, 1997, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requested additional information necessary for the staff to complete its evaluation of the MUPRA. TVA has chosen not to respond to this request for additional information with a technical submittal. Based on the information that has been provided to date, the staff is unable to conclude that TVA has met the intent of Generic Letter 88-20. The staff believes that TVA has failed to provide a convincing argument that either the MUPRA or the Unit 3 PRA adequately meets the objectives of Generic Letter 88-20. Therefore, the staff has terminated its evaluation activities for the Browns Ferry MUPRA, and the Unit 3 Individual Plant Examination (IPE) for internal events and internal flood.

In your July 7, 1997, response to our June 19, 1997, letter, you requested a meeting between TVA and NRC senior management to discuss resolution of the outstanding issues. The enclosed staff evaluation may be helpful in this respect. I will be in contact with Mr. T. E. Abney, Browns Ferry Manager of Licensing and Industry Affairs, to arrange the meeting you requested.

Sincerely,

/s/

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

Docket No. 50-296
Serial No. BFN-98-011

Enclosure: Staff Evaluation

cc w/endl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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UNIT 2 MULTI-UNIT PRA - GENERIC LETTER 88-20 (TAC NO. M74384)

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Albert W. De Agazio".

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

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Enclosure: Staff Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. O. J. Zeringue
Tennessee Valley Authority

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

cc:

Mr. J. A. Scalice, Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. Mark J. Burzynski, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
4J Blue Ridge
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. Jack A. Bailey, Vice President
Engineering & Technical Services
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Mr. Timothy E. Abney, Manager
Licensing and Industry Affairs
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 37402-2801

Mr. C. M. Crane, Site Vice President
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35609

Regional Administrator, Region II
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
61 Forsyth Street, SW., Suite 23T85
Atlanta, GA 30303-3415

General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
ET 10H
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37902

Mr. Leonard D. Wert
Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
10833 Shaw Road
Athens, AL 35611

Mr. Raul R. Baron, General Manager
Nuclear Assurance
Tennessee Valley Authority
4J Blue Ridge
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

State Health Officer
Alabama Dept. of Public Health
434 Monroe Street
Montgomery, AL 35130-1701

Mr. Karl W. Singer, Plant Manager
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35609

Chairman
Limestone County Commission
310 West Washington Street
Athens, AL 35611