



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE N.E., SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1200

March 26, 2026

EAI-RII-2026-0002

Mr. Victor E. Bond
[HOME ADDRESS DELETED
UNDER 10 CFR 2.390(a)]

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION, EAI-RII-2026-0002

Dear Mr. Bond,

This letter refers to two Event Notifications (ENs 57833 and 57942) made by Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on July 29 and September 23, 2025, respectively, regarding your activities as a licensed operator at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (Watts Bar), Units 1 and 2. The ENs informed the NRC that you had tested positive for an illegal substance during fitness-for-duty (FFD) tests conducted on July 17 and September 16, 2025. The NRC received additional information from Watts Bar on October 22, 2025, associated with your confirmed positive FFD test results.

In the letter dated February 6, 2026 (accessible in NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) via accession number ML26030A267), we informed you that the NRC had identified an apparent violation and provided you with the opportunity to address it by either attending a predecisional enforcement conference (PEC) or by providing a written response before we made our final enforcement decision. On March 17, 2026, you provided a written response to the apparent violation, asserting, in part, that the cause of your positive FFD tests for cocaine metabolites was unknown and that it was probably due to environmental reasons. However, based on drug-testing science and established cutoff levels, environmental exposure to cocaine or its metabolites is not known to produce confirmed positive FFD test results under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 26 (10 CFR). The cutoff limits in 10 CFR Part 26 are intentionally designed to prevent false positives caused by incidental, passive, or environmental exposure. As such, a confirmed positive under a 10 CFR Part 26 FFD program is interpreted as actual use, unless a legitimate explanation is identified.

Based on the information developed during our review and the information you provided in your response, the NRC determined that a violation of 10 CFR 55.53(j) occurred because you were under the influence of an illegal substance while performing licensed activities, as demonstrated by confirmed positive test results for cocaine metabolites. This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice).

The purpose of the Commission's FFD requirements is to provide reasonable assurance that nuclear power plant personnel work in an environment that is free of drugs and alcohol and the effects of the use of these substances. The use of illegal substance such that an operator exceeds the cutoff limits specified in 10 CFR Part 26, or in the licensee's FFD program, is a serious matter which undermines the special trust and confidence placed in you as a licensed operator.

Therefore, this violation is categorized as a Severity Level III violation in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy. The current Enforcement Policy is included on the NRC's Web site at <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/enforcement/enforce-pol.html>.

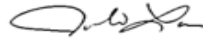
Since TVA requested the NRC to terminate your license on September 22, 2025, you are not required to respond to the enclosed Notice at this time unless you wish to contest the violation. If you choose to contest the violation, a response is required within 30 days of the date of this letter, addressing the specific basis for disputing the violation. Additionally, if you reapply for a 10 CFR Part 55 license in the future, you will be required, pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, to submit a written response to this violation, addressing the reasons for this violation and the actions you have taken to prevent recurrence, as specified in the enclosed Notice. In any case, your response should be sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Regional Administrator, NRC Region II, 245 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE (Suite 1200), Atlanta, GA 30303-1257; and be marked *Open by Addressee Only - Response to a Notice of Violation; EAI-RII-2026-0002*.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding," enforcement actions are made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. A copy of this letter and the enclosed Notice of Violation with your address removed will be made available to the public, unless you provide a sufficient basis to withdraw this violation. The NRC also includes significant enforcement actions on its Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/enforcement/actions/>.

In addition, this letter will be maintained by the Office of Enforcement in an NRC Privacy Act system of records, NRC-3, Enforcement Actions Against Individuals. This system, which is not publicly accessible, includes all records pertaining to individuals who are being or have been considered for enforcement action, whether such action was taken or not. Detailed information about this system of records, including the NRC-3 system notice, can be accessed from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/privacy-systems.html>. Finally, a copy of this letter will be placed in your 10 CFR Part 55 docket file.

If you have any questions related to this matter, please contact Matthew Endress, Chief, Operations Branch, NRC Region II, at 404-997-4718, or via email at Matthew.Endress@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by Lara, Julio
on 03/26/26

Julio F. Lara
Acting Regional Administrator

Docket No. 55-23608
License No. OP-22046-1

Enclosure:
Notice of Violation

cc: w/enclosure and with HOME ADDRESS DELETED
GovDelivery Subscriber

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION, EAI-RII-2026-0002, DATED MARCH 26, 2026

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NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Mr. Victor E. Bond
[HOME ADDRESS DELETED
UNDER 10 CFR 2.390]

Docket No. 55-23608
License No. OP-22046-1
EAI-RII-2026-0002

As a result of two event notifications from Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) dated July 19 and September 23, 2025, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, the violation is listed below:

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), paragraph 55.53(j), states in part that a licensee shall not perform activities authorized by a license issued under this part while under the influence of an illegal substance that could adversely affect his or her ability to safely and competently perform his or her licensed duties. For the purpose of this paragraph, with respect to drugs, the term "under the influence" means the licensee exceeded, as evidenced by a confirmed test result, the lower of the cutoff levels for drugs contained in subparts E, F, and G of part 26 of this chapter, or as established by the facility licensee.

Licensee procedure NPG-SPP-14.1, "Fitness-For-Duty (FFD)", Revision 23, Section 3.2.9, "Chemical Testing Process," implements 10 CFR Part 26 and states, in part, that the FFD cut-off level for cocaine is set at 150 nanograms per milliliter (ng/ml), which is equivalent to the cutoff level specified in 10 CFR 26.163.

Contrary to the above, from July 19 to July 28, 2025, you, an NRC licensee, performed activities authorized by NRC-issued license OP-22406-1 under the influence of cocaine, an illegal substance, which could have adversely affected your ability to safely and competently perform your licensed duties. Specifically, on July 17, 2025, you were selected for a random drug screening test during an off-shift training week and then assigned to licensed duties as a Reactor Operator on July 19, 2025. The test results, dated July 28, 2025, confirmed 248 ng/ml of cocaine metabolites, exceeding the cutoff level of 150 ng/ml established in 10 CFR 26.163 and the facility's FFD procedure. Additionally, on September 16, 2025, you submitted to a drug test to regain unescorted access to the facility, and the results confirmed 197 ng/ml of cocaine metabolites, also exceeding the cutoff level in 10 CFR 26.163 and licensee's procedure NPG-SPP-14.1.

This is a Severity Level III violation (NRC Enforcement Policy, Section 6.4.c.1(a))

Since TVA requested the NRC to terminate your license on September 22, 2025, you are not required to respond to this Notice at this time unless you wish to contest the violation. If you choose to contest the violation, a response is required within 30 days of the date of this letter, addressing the specific basis for disputing the violation. Additionally, should you apply for a 10 CFR Part 55 license in the future, you will be required, pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, to submit a written response to this violation addressing: (1) the reason for the violation; (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved; (3) the corrective steps that will be taken; and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved.

In any case, your response should be sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Regional Administrator, NRC Region II, 245 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE (Suite 1200), Atlanta, GA 30303-1257; and be marked Open by Addressee Only - Response to a Notice of

Enclosure

Violation; EAI-RII-2026-0002. If you contest this enforcement action, you should also provide a copy of your response, with the basis for your denial, to the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Your response, if any, will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room and in the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy or proprietary information so that it can be made available to the public without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.390(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information).

This notice will be maintained by the Office of Enforcement in an NRC Privacy Act system of records, NRC-3, Enforcement Actions Against Individuals. This system, which is not publicly-accessible, includes all records pertaining to individuals who are being or have been considered for enforcement action, whether such action was taken or not. The NRC-3 system notice, which provides detailed information about this system of records, can be accessed from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/privacy-systems.html>.

Dated this 26 Day of March 2026