

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

October 28, 1999

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
 CHANGE NO. 99-004, POTENTIAL MAIN STEAM SYSTEM OVER-
 PRESSURIZATION CONDITION, WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 1
 (TAC No. MA6045)

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On June 25, 1999, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for amendment to the Technical Specifications (TS) and facility operating license for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Unit 1 (WBN). The proposed amendment would change the main steam safety valve section to address a potential main steam system overpressure condition identified by WBN's nuclear steam supply system vendor. The proposed amendment is based on a generic change to NUREG-1431 (Westinghouse Standard Technical Specifications) that was approved by the NRC staff on January 13, 1999.

The staff's review of TVA's June 25, 1999 application has identified deviations from the previously approved Standard Technical Specification for which additional information is requested, as noted in the enclosure. As discussed with your staff on October 26, 1999, TVA agreed to provide a response to the Request for additional information by December 17, 1999.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
 Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
 Project Directorate II
 Division of Licensing Project Management
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-390

Enclosure: Request for Additional
 Information

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Tennessee Valley Authority
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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert E. Martin".

Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has identified deviations from the associated changes approved by the NRC staff to the Standard Technical Specification in Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) traveler number 235, Revision 1, on January 13, 1999, for main steam safety valves (MSSVs). These deviations and the corresponding request for additional information are as follows:

Uncertainties for One Inoperable MSSV on One or More Steam Generators

Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) Technical Specification (TS) page B 3.7-4 reflects the addition of TSTF 235, Revision 1, insert B 3.7-3A, second paragraph, with the exception of the phrase "...with an appropriate allowance for calorimetric power uncertainty." Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA's) response also did not adopt the sentence at the bottom of TSTF 235's page Insert B3.7-3A which addresses the magnitude of this uncertainty. Please respond to these concerns, including how this uncertainty is accommodated for Watts Bar.

Calculation of Heat Removal for remaining MSSVs

WBN TS page B3.7-4 reflects the definition of the term w_s with the exception of the phrase "... at the highest OPERABLE MSSV opening pressure, including tolerance and accumulation, as appropriate. . ." Please respond regarding how this uncertainty on the MSSV flow rate capability will be accommodated for Watts Bar.

Uncertainties for Multiple Inoperable MSSVs on One or more Steam Generators

WBN TS page B3.7-4, Insert D, reflects TSTF 235 Insert B3.7-3A, Items B.1 and B.2, with the exception of the phrase "...with an appropriate allowance for Nuclear Instrumentation System trip channel uncertainties." Note that the Reviewer's Note in TSTF 235 refers to a representative value of 9% rated thermal power (RTP) to account for nuclear instrumentation system trip channel uncertainties. Please respond to this concern including how this uncertainty (and its value) is accommodated for Watts Bar.

TVA Uncertainty Statement

It is not clear which of the above uncertainties are addressed by TVA's two statements which appear on page B 3.7-4 and Insert D as follows: "The values in Specification 3.7.1 include an allowance for instrument and channel uncertainties to the allowable RTP obtained with this algorithm."

Balanced Valves

Please confirm, as previously indicated orally, that TSTF Surveillance Requirement 3.7.1.1, Item e, is not included for WBN on the basis that WBN does not utilize balanced valves.

ENCLOSURE

Mr. J. A. Scalice
Tennessee Valley Authority

WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT

cc:

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