



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II  
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

March 3, 2004

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

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT,  
REPORT 50-259/2004-01, 50-260/2004-01, 50-296/2004-01**

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On February 4, 2004, the NRC staff completed its end-of-cycle plant performance assessment of the operating Units 2 and 3 at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. The end-of-cycle review for Browns Ferry involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2003. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections that may conflict with your plant activities.

Overall, Browns Ferry Units 2 and 3 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore we plan to conduct only reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at Browns Ferry Units 2 and 3 through September 30, 2005. We also plan on conducting several non-ROP inspections which include your Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) construction project, safety initiative inspections of spent fuel material control and accountability, and license renewal activities.

Additionally, we will continue to conduct routine oversight inspections of the Unit 1 Recovery Project and we have planned specialized inspections of significant Unit 1 modification work. Specific area reviews regarding the readiness of some Unit 1 Cornerstones for transition to the normal ROP will be incorporated into planned inspections in the areas of Emergency Preparedness, Security, and Radiological Protection.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through September 30, 2005. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival

onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last twelve months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review meeting.

As you are aware, the NRC has issued several Orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities and improve guard force readiness since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. We have conducted inspections to review your implementation of these requirements and have monitored your actions in response to changing threat conditions. For calendar year 2004, we plan to continue inspections of Order implementation combined with newly developed portions of the security baseline inspection program.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at 404-562-4520 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Stephen J. Cahill, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch 6  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, 50-296, 72-52  
License No. DPR-33, DPR-52, DPR-68

Enclosure: Browns Ferry Inspection / Activity Plan

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

cc w/encls:

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**Browns Ferry**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**03/01/2004 - 09/30/2005**

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	<b>EB2-BF1 - UNIT 1 IGSCC SPECIAL PROGRAM</b>		<b>2</b>			
1	IP 55050	Nuclear Welding General Inspection Procedure		03/01/2004	03/05/2004	Other Routine
	<b>EB2-ISI - UNIT 3 INSERVICE INSPECTION</b>		<b>2</b>			
3	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		03/08/2004	03/11/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>OL PREP - INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSE EXAM PREP</b>		<b>3</b>			
1	V23214	BROWNS FERRY/EXAMS AT POWER FACILITIES		03/29/2004	04/02/2004	Not Applicable
	<b>EB2-BF1 - ELEC CONDUIT / HVAC / SEISMIC III/ I INSP</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 62002	Inspection Of Structures, Passive Components, And Civil Engineering Features At Nuclear F		04/05/2004	04/09/2004	Other Routine
	<b>OL EXAM - INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSE EXAM</b>		<b>3</b>			
1	V23214	BROWNS FERRY/EXAMS AT POWER FACILITIES		04/26/2004	04/30/2004	Not Applicable
	<b>EB1-ELEC - CABLE AMPACITY, INSTALLATION INSP</b>		<b>4</b>			
1	IP 37550	Engineering		05/03/2004	05/08/2004	Core
	<b>ISFSI - ISFSI CONSTRUCTION</b>		<b>1</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 60853	On-Site Fabrication Of Components And Construction On An ISFSI		05/10/2004	05/14/2004	Other Routine
	<b>EB2-HS - HEAT SINK</b>		<b>1</b>			
2, 3	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		05/17/2004	05/21/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>2515/154 - SPENT FUEL MAT. CONTROL &amp; ACCOUNTABILITY</b>		<b>1</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 2515/154	Spent Fuel Material Control and Accounting at Nuclear Power Plants		05/23/2004	05/29/2004	Safety Issues
	<b>EB2-BF1 - CRD PIPING &amp; INST TUBING SPECIAL PROGRAM</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 37550	Engineering		06/01/2004	06/04/2004	Core
	<b>EB2-BF1 - INST TUBE, SMALL BORE PIPE SPECIAL PROG</b>		<b>2</b>			
1	IP 62002	Inspection Of Structures, Passive Components, And Civil Engineering Features At Nuclear F		06/01/2004	06/04/2004	Other Routine
	<b>OL EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS</b>		<b>1</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		06/07/2004	06/11/2004	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		06/07/2004	06/11/2004	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		06/07/2004	06/11/2004	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		06/07/2004	06/11/2004	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		06/07/2004	06/11/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EB2-BF1 - UNIT 1 IGSCC SPECIAL PROGRAM</b>		<b>2</b>			
1	IP 55050	Nuclear Welding General Inspection Procedure		06/07/2004	06/12/2004	Other Routine
	<b>EB2-BF1 - INST TUBE, SMALL BORE PIPE SPECIAL PROG</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 50090	Pipe Support And Restraint Systems		06/21/2004	06/24/2004	Other Routine
	<b>EB1-BF1 - SPECIAL PROGRAM SPLICES, FUSES</b>		<b>3</b>			
1	IP 37550	Engineering		07/12/2004	07/16/2004	Core

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.  
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

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Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	<b>EB2-BF1 - UNIT 1 IGSCC SPECIAL PROGRAM</b>		<b>2</b>			
1	IP 55050	Nuclear Welding General Inspection Procedure		07/12/2004	07/17/2004	Other Routine
	<b>LIC RENE - FIRST LICENSE RENEWAL INSPECTION</b>		<b>4</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 71002	License Renewal Inspection		07/19/2004	07/23/2004	License Renewal Ins
	<b>EB2-BF1 - U1 SPECIAL PROGRAM (SP) - COATINGS</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 37551	Onsite Engineering		08/08/2004	08/12/2004	Core
	<b>PS-RP - RAD PROT ALARA &amp; UNIT 1 RESTART REVIEWS</b>		<b>2</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		09/07/2004	09/10/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>PS-SEC - SECURITY</b>		<b>2</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 7113001	Access Authorization		09/13/2004	09/17/2004	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7113002	Access Control		09/13/2004	09/17/2004	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		09/13/2004	09/17/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EB1-BF1 - CABLE INSTALLATION, FLEX CONDUIT U1 SP</b>		<b>2</b>			
1	IP 37551	Onsite Engineering		09/20/2004	09/25/2004	Core
	<b>EB1-BF1 - EQ, THERMAL OVERLOADS U1 SPECIAL PROG</b>		<b>3</b>			
1	IP 37550	Engineering		10/04/2004	10/08/2004	Core
	<b>EB1-BF1 - ELECTRICAL PROGRAMS</b>		<b>2</b>			
1	IP 37550	Engineering		11/01/2004	11/05/2004	Core
	<b>LIC RENE - SECOND LICENSE RENEWAL INSPECTION</b>		<b>4</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 71002	License Renewal Inspection		11/15/2004	12/03/2004	License Renewal Ins
	<b>EB1-BF1 - FIRE PROTECTION - UNIT 1 PROGRAM REVIEW</b>		<b>3</b>			
1	IP 37550	Engineering		11/27/2004	12/03/2004	Core
1	IP 64704	Fire Protection Program		11/27/2004	12/03/2004	Other Routine
	<b>EB1SSDPC - SSDPC PRE-INSPECTION VISIT</b>		<b>2</b>			
2, 3	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		12/13/2004	12/17/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EB1SSDPC - SAFETY SYSTEM DESIGN &amp; PERF. CAPABILITY</b>		<b>5</b>			
2, 3	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		01/10/2005	01/14/2005	Baseline Inspections
2, 3	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		01/24/2005	01/28/2005	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EB2-ISI - UNIT 2 INSERVICE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>			
2	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		02/28/2005	03/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
	<b>PS-RP - RAD PROTECTION OCCUPATIONAL - WEEK 1</b>		<b>2</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		02/28/2005	03/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		02/28/2005	03/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		02/28/2005	03/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		02/28/2005	03/04/2005	Baseline Inspections

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Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	<b>PS-RP</b>	<b>- RAD PROTECTION OCCUPATIONAL - WEEK 2</b>	<b>2</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		03/14/2005	03/18/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		03/14/2005	03/18/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		03/14/2005	03/18/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		03/14/2005	03/18/2005	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EB2-MR</b>	<b>- MAINTENANCE RULE</b>	<b>1</b>			
2, 3	IP 711112B	Maintenance Effectiveness		04/18/2005	04/22/2005	Baseline Inspections
	<b>OL EP</b>	<b>- EMERGENCY EXERCISE</b>	<b>2</b>			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation		06/06/2005	06/10/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		06/06/2005	06/10/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		06/06/2005	06/10/2005	Baseline Inspections
	<b>OL PREP</b>	<b>- INITIAL OPERATOR LIC EXAM PREP</b>	<b>3</b>			
1	V23214	BROWNS FERRY/EXAMS AT POWER FACILITIES		09/19/2005	09/23/2005	Not Applicable