

January 27, 2000

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

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 99-02,  
"LABORATORY TESTING OF NUCLEAR-GRADE ACTIVATED CHARCOAL"  
BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1, 2 AND 3 (TAC NOS. MA5766,  
MA5767 AND MA5768)

Dear Mr. Scalice;

On June 3, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 99-02, "Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-grade Activated Charcoal," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

The purpose of the GL was to:

- (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.
- (2) Request that all addressees determine whether their Technical Specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing. Addressees whose TS do not reference ASTM D3803-1989 should either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the information discussed in the requested actions.
- (3) Alert addressees to the staff's intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions.
- (4) Request that all addressees send the NRC written responses to this generic letter relating to implementation of the requested actions.

In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established the following four groups of plants:

- (1) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

In response to GL 99-02, Mr. T.E. Abney provided a letter dated November 18, 1999 for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Units 1, 2 and 3. This letter provided information which indicates that the Browns Ferry units are Group 1 plants. All requested information has been provided; therefore, we consider GL 99-02 to be closed for your Browns Ferry facility. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Bill Long at 301-415-3026.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William O. Long, Senior Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate II  
Division of Licensing Project Management

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260 and 50-296

cc: See next page

In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established the following four groups of plants:

- (1) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

In response to GL 99-02, Mr. T.E. Abney provided a letter dated November 18, 1999 for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Units 1, 2 and 3. This letter provided information which indicates that the Browns Ferry units are Group 1 plants. All requested information has been provided; therefore, we consider GL 99-02 to be closed for your Browns Ferry facility. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Bill Long at 301-415-3026.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William O. Long, Senior Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate II  
Division of Licensing Project Management

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260 and 50-296

cc: See next page

**DISTRIBUTION:**

File Center	PUBLIC	OGC	ACRS	BFN r/f
BMOzafari	RCorreia	WLong	BClayton	PFredrickson
JSegala	JHannon			

DOCUMENT NAME: C:\a5766clo.wpd

**TO RECEIVE A COPY, WRITE A "C" IN THE BOX.**

OFFICE	PDII-2:PM	C	PDII-2:LA	C	LPM		SPLB:SC		PDII-2:SC	
NAME	WLong		BClayton		BMOzafari		EWeiss		RCorreia	
DATE	12 /17/99		12/16/99		12 /20/99		01/18/00		01/19/00	

Mr. J. A. Scalice  
Tennessee Valley Authority

**BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT**

cc:

Mr. Karl W. Singer, 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  
4X 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 35609

Mr. John T. Herron, Site Vice President  
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
P.O. Box 2000  
Decatur, AL 35609

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

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

State Health Officer  
Alabama Dept. of Public Health  
RSA Tower - Administration  
Suite 1552  
P.O. Box 303017  
Montgomery, AL 36130-3017

Mr. N. C. Kazanas, General Manager  
Nuclear Assurance  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
5M Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

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

Mr. Robert G. Jones, Plant Manager  
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
P.O. Box 2000  
Decatur, AL 35609