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No: II-98-56 Contact: Ken Clark or Roger Hannah FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Thursday, September 24, 1998)

NRC NAMES NEW SENIOR RESIDENT INSPECTOR AT BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials in Atlanta have announced the assignment of Ward Smith as the new Senior Resident Inspector at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant in Athens, Alabama.

Before being assigned to Browns Ferry, Smith worked as the senior resident inspector for five years at Entergy Operations' River Bend Nuclear Station in St. Francisville, Louisiana. Before his River Bend assignment, he spent the first 10 years of his NRC career as a senior resident and resident inspector at the Waterford, Grand Gulf, and Comanche Peak nuclear plants. Smith joined the NRC in 1983 after 18 years experience in the construction, overhaul, and refueling of fast attack nuclear submarines at Ingalls Shipbuilding Division in Pascagoula, Mississippi. He has a B.S. Degree in Marine Engineering from the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York.

Smith joins NRC Resident Inspectors Joelle Starefos and Eugene DiPaolo, and Site Secretary Loretta Williams at the Browns Ferry plant. The NRC inspectors at Browns Ferry can be reached at 256-729-6196.

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