



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 15, 2011

Mr. Preston D. Swafford
Chief Nuclear Officer and
Executive Vice President
Tennessee Valley Authority
3R Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 – RESUMPTION OF
REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED EXTENDED POWER UPRATE AMENDMENT
(TAC NOS. MD5262, MD5263, AND MD5264) (TS-431)

Dear Mr. Swafford:

By letter dated September 18, 2009, I informed you that, because of the containment accident pressure (CAP) credit issue, additional time was warranted to develop additional review criteria to ensure the technical adequacy of the extended power uprate (EPU) applications for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN), Units 1, 2, and 3. The development of these review criteria is essential to provide the technical and regulatory consistency, as well as the schedule certainty needed to complete this review.

The CAP credit review criteria were developed several months ago and presented to the Commission via SECY-11-0014, "Use of Containment Accident Pressure in Analyzing Emergency Core Cooling System and Containment Heat Removal System Pump Performance in Postulated Accidents" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML102780586). The review criteria have been endorsed by the Commission via a memo, "Staff Requirements - SECY-11-014 - Use of Containment Accident Pressure in Analyzing Emergency Core Cooling System and Containment Heat Removal System Pump Performance in Postulated Accidents," dated March 15, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML110740154). Thus, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is prepared to resume the review.

P. Swafford

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In my letter I also stated that the NRC staff will focus on closing out the other outstanding technical issues associated with the EPU amendment applications. I trust that your staff had been in frequent contact with the BFN Project Manager, Mr. Christopher Gratton, to obtain up-to-date status of all those other issues of this EPU review.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Gratton at (301) 415-1055.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Leeds". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and "L".

Eric J. Leeds, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

cc: Listserv

P. Swafford

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In my letter I also stated that the NRC staff will focus on closing out the other outstanding technical issues associated with the EPU amendment applications. I trust that your staff had been in frequent contact with the BFN Project Manager, Mr. Christopher Gratton, to obtain up-to-date status of all those other issues of this EPU review.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Gratton at (301) 415-1055.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Eric J. Leeds, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

cc: Listserv

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