



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

January 30, 2012

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Manager, Corporate Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
3R Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2 – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
CHANGES TO ALLOW USE OF SHIELD BUILDING DOME PENETRATIONS
DURING MODES 1 THROUGH 4 (TAC NO. ME7026)

Dear Mr. Shea:

By letter dated August 31, 2011, and supplemented by letter dated November 28, 2011, you submitted an application for license amendment proposing to temporarily revise the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant (SQN), Unit 2, Technical Specifications. During the SQN, Unit 2 spring 2011 refueling outage (RFO), two penetrations through the shield building (SB) dome were created. To maintain SB integrity, these penetrations were closed with a steel hatch assembly prior to entering Mode 4 at the end of the spring 2011 RFO. The proposed change will allow opening of one of the penetration hatches in the SB dome for up to 5 hours per day, 6 days per calendar week while in Modes 1 through 4 during SQN, Unit 2, Cycle 18 (U2R18) between receipt of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approval for this proposed request, and until entering Mode 5 at the start of the SQN, Unit 2 fall 2012 RFO (U2R18).

The NRC staff is reviewing the submittal and has determined that additional information is required to complete its evaluation. This request was discussed with Mr. Clyde Mackaman of your staff on January 11, 2012, and it was agreed that a response would be provided within 30 days from the date of this letter.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-1564.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Siva P. Lingam".

Siva P. Lingam, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-328

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REGARDING TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION CHANGES
TO ALLOW USE OF SHIELD BUILDING DOME
PENETRATIONS DURING MODES 1 THROUGH 4
SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2
DOCKET NO. 50-328

By letter dated August 31, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML11249A061), and supplemented by letter dated November 28, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML11334A054), the Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee), submitted a license amendment request (LAR) to revise the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant (SQN), Unit 2, Technical Specifications (TSs) to allow the use of one of the penetration hatches in the shield building dome for up to 5 hours per day, 6 days per calendar week while in Modes 1 through 4 during SQN, Unit 2, Cycle 18 (U2R18) between receipt of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approval for this proposed request, and until entering Mode 5 at the start of the SQN, Unit 2 fall 2012 refueling outage (U2R18). In order to complete its review of the above documents, the NRC staff needs the following additional information:

When discussing the control room dose analyses on page A6-2 in Attachment 6 of the licensee's letter dated August 31, 2011, the licensee stated:

"Preliminary ARCON96 runs indicated that the worst case X/Q values for releases from the open penetration will be greater than the vent X/Q, however these values are within a factor of 2 of the design basis vent X/Q values."

Please provide the worst case X/Q values for releases from the open penetration. Also, provide a copy of the meteorological data inputs and program outputs for the atmospheric dispersion computer codes (e.g., ARCON96) used to generate the worst case X/Q values. Any assumptions and inputs associated with the use of the computer codes that are not included in the current application, Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, or other docketed information should also be provided.

Please provide a site plan highlighting the locations of all potential accident release pathways and control room intake and unfiltered inleakage pathways. Drawings should be to scale and show true north. If the diagram included on page A6-5 satisfies these criteria, please provide a more legible version.

Enclosure

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/RA/

Siva P. Lingam, Project Manager
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Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
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