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SUBJECT: Provides evaluation on impact of implementing proposed NQA plan.

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JAN 10 1990

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Gentlemen:

In the Matter of)
Tennessee Valley Authority

Docket No. 50-260

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - EVALUATION OF TVA'S NUCLEAR QUALITY ASSURANCE (NQA) PLAN'S IMPACT ON BFN'S RESTART OF UNIT 2

As requested by the Region II NRC Staff, TVA provides an evaluation on the impact of implementing TVA's proposed NQA plan. This evaluation is in support of the upcoming quality assurance programmatic team inspection.

On December 7, 1989, TVA submitted to NRC additional information for the NQA plan. TVA understands there are no outstanding NRC issues that should prevent NRC staff's concurrence on the plan. In addition, TVA believes that the implementation of the NQA plan will have a minimum programmatic impact on BFN's restart of Unit 2. TVA intends to begin transitioning to the plan and believes our complete implementation of the plan should not affect the BFN QA programmatic team inspection.

TVA's QA plan does contain enhancements to the current QA program. For example, the NQA plan provides for a graded approach to include application and verification of QA requirements to quality-related items and activities. The purpose of the graded approach is to ensure TVA works smarter by focusing personnel resources on identified problem areas which require more attention. Additionally, independent verification will be used on Quality Control inspection hold points which are graded by QA. The line organizations will be responsible for verifying that the activity meets acceptance criteria and Quality Assurance will monitor the line performance. If a negative trend is identified, corrective action will be taken.

In summary, TVA is developing and implementing a NQA plan that is consistent with the objectives of TVA's current QA program. Implementation of the NQA will not have a significant programmatic impact. Therefore, TVA considers the BFN QA program ready for the QA programmatic inspection.

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If you have any questions, please telephone Patrick Carrier, BFN, at
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Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

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