

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Tennessee Valley Authority  
Sequoyah Unit 1

Docket No. 50-327  
License No. DRP-77

During an NRC inspection conducted from April 13 through May 24, 1997, violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedures for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violations are listed below:

- A. Technical Specification 4.10.3.2, Physics Tests Surveillance Requirements, requires that each Intermediate and Power Range Channel shall be subjected to a CHANNEL FUNCTIONAL TEST within 12 hours prior to initiating PHYSICS TESTS.

Contrary to the above, on May 11, 1997, each Intermediate and Power Range Channel was not subjected to a CHANNEL FUNCTIONAL TEST within 12 hours prior to initiating PHYSICS TESTING, in that the 12 hour channel functional test for Power Range Channel instrument NI-42 and Intermediate Power Range Channel instrument NI-36 expired prior to the initiation of Physics Testing.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement 1).

- B. Technical Specification 6.8.1.a requires, in part, that procedures shall be established, implemented, and maintained covering the activities recommended in Appendix A of Regulatory Guide 1.33, Revision 2, February 1978, "Quality Assurance Program Requirements (Operation)." Appendix A of Regulatory Guide 1.33, Section 1, includes procedures for "Authorities and Responsibilities for Safe Operation and Shutdown" and Section 2 includes procedures for "Power Operation and Process Monitoring".

General Operating Instruction (GO), 0-GO-5, Normal Power Operation, Revision 6, Section 5.1, requires that ramp load rate increases shall be within the limits stated in Technical Instruction (TI)-40.

TI-40, Determination of Preconditioned Reactor Power, Revision 8, Section 4.1, requires that for the initial startup after core reload the ramp rate should be limited to 3 percent of full power in an hour between 20 percent and 100 percent of full power.

Site Standard Practice (SSP)-12.1, Conduct of Operations, Revision 17, Section 3.8.3 C, requires that unit status, load or significant reactivity changes, and initiation and completion of surveillance tests shall be recorded in at least one narrative log.

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Site Standard Practice (SSP)-12.1, Conduct of Operations, Revision 17, Section 3.1.5 F. requires the unit supervisor to coordinate the activities of the unit operators with other Operations and plant personnel to achieve safe, reliable, and efficient operation of the unit.

Contrary to the above, on May 15, 1997:

1. Operators exceeded 3 percent of full power in one hour ramp rate.
2. Operators failed to record in the narrative log an Axial Flux Difference (AFD) alarm condition, a significant load and reactivity change, and the initiation of a surveillance test.
3. The unit supervisor did not coordinate the activities of the unit operators with other Operations and plant personnel when he failed to notify the shift manager of a significant load and reactivity change and of an Axial Flux Difference alarm condition.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement 1).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Tennessee Valley Authority is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region II, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the Sequoyah Nuclear Station within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previously docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information

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will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.790(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information). If safeguards information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21.

Dated at Atlanta, Georgia  
this 20th day of June 1997