

Official

APR 15 1986

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. S. A. White
Manager of Nuclear Power
6N 38A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: DOCKET NOS. 50-259, 50-260, AND 50-296

NRC regulation 10 CFR 50.34(b)(6)(ii) requires licensees to maintain managerial and administrative controls to assure that 10 CFR 50, Appendix B, Criterion XIII is met. Criterion XIII relates to preservation of material and equipment during storage. All licensees were recently reminded of these requirements by IE Information Notice No. 85-56.

During a recent routine inspection of the Browns Ferry Plant, attention was focused on the vulnerability of the systems that constitute the reactor coolant pressure boundary during the current extended outage. It is difficult to establish quantitatively the extent to which degradation has occurred while the three units have been in wet lay-up. However, it is known that corrosion of stainless steel and, especially, carbon steel is accelerated in the presence of oxygenated water or in humid environments.

When this concern was discussed during the inspection, the inspector was informed that a study of alternative techniques had just been completed and that the study concluded that dry lay-up processes appeared to be advantageous. We are aware that dry lay-up, through the use of desiccation and/or dehumidifiers, has already been used at other nuclear power plants to prevent corrosion during extended outages.

Although this matter was brought to the attention of plant management and has been discussed in Inspection Report No. 86-07, I considered it advisable to use this letter to inform you also. Because of the significance of the potential deterioration of the reactor coolant pressure boundary, I urge that increased and expedited attention be given to evaluating and reviewing as appropriate the lay-up conditions that are now in effect at the Browns Ferry plant.

Sincerely,

John A. Olshinski
Deputy Regional Administrator
for TVA

cc: (See page 2)

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- cc: ✓ W. C. Bibb, Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Site Director
- ✓ R. L. Lewis, Plant Manager
- ✓ K. W. Whitt, Director, Nuclear Managers Review Group
- ✓ D. L. Williams, Jr., Supervisor Licensing Section
- ✓ R. E. Rogers, Project Engineers

- bcc: ✓ J. N. Grace
- ✓ H. R. Denton, NRR
- ✓ H. L. Thompson, NRR
- ✓ J. M. Taylor, IE
- ✓ B. B. Hayes, OI
- ✓ R. J. Clark, Licensing Project Manager, NRR
- ✓ S. R. Connelly, OIA
- ✓ NRC Resident Inspector
- ✓ Document Control Desk
- ✓ State of Alabama

RII <i>WR</i> WRoss 3/27/86	RII <i>WR</i> PScoddart 3/27/86	RII <i>DMC</i> DCollins 3/31/86	RII <i>JP</i> JPStohr 4/1/86	RII <i>WEC</i> DVerrelli 4/4/86
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