



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

May 30, 2001

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. J. A. Scalice
Chief Nuclear Officer and
Executive Vice President
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT-
REPORT 50-259/2001-01, 50-260/2001-01 AND 50-296/2001-01

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On May 2, 2001, the NRC staff completed its end-of-cycle plant performance assessment of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. The end-of-cycle review for Browns Ferry involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) and inspection results for the period from April 2, 2000, to March 31, 2001. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities.

Overall, Browns Ferry operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only the baseline inspections at your facility through May 31, 2002, as well as continue to inspect the applicable Unit 1 layup equipment and activities on an annual basis.

In addition, as identified in our Mid-Cycle Performance Review letter dated November 27, 2000, on October 27, 2000, the staff issued a Severity Level III Notice of Violation (NOV) in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedures for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600. The violation involved a former Browns Ferry employee's deliberate failure to perform measuring and test equipment nonconformance evaluations in accordance with Technical Specifications required site procedures. We plan to follow-up on your corrective actions involving this matter through future baseline inspection effort.

Also, prior to this assessment period, on February 7, 2000, the staff issued an NOV and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty - \$110,000 to TVA. This Severity Level II violation involved employment discrimination contrary to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.7, "Employee Protection," in that TVA did not select a former employee to a competitive position in the corporate chemistry organization in 1996, due, at least in part, to his engagement in protected activities. On January 22, 2001, TVA

denied the violation. Subsequent to this assessment period, on May 4, 2001, the staff issued an Order sustaining the violation and imposing the civil penalty. TVA's response to the Imposition Order remains pending.

The enclosed inspection plan details the scheduled inspections that will occur through May 31, 2002. This inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature.

For your information, the NRC is in the process of aligning the inspection and assessment cycle with the calendar year. In order to transition to a calendar year (CY) cycle (January 1 - December 31), the current inspection and assessment cycle will consist of only three quarters (i.e., the second, third and fourth calendar quarters of CY 2001). As a result, for this transition period, the number of inspection activities has been modified accordingly and a mid-cycle review letter and accompanying inspection plan will not be issued.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (404) 562-4530 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Paul E. Fredrickson, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 6
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, 50-296
License Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52, DPR-68

Enclosure: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

cc w/encl:

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Browns Ferry
Inspection / Activity Plan
06/01/2001 - 05/31/2002

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	OL EP	- EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS	2			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation		06/04/2001	06/08/2001	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		06/04/2001	06/08/2001	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		06/04/2001	06/08/2001	Baseline Inspections
	MB MR	- MAINTENANCE RULE	1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111112B	Maintenance Rule Implementation		07/09/2001	07/13/2001	Baseline Inspections
	PB6LAYUP	- UNIT 1 SYSTEM LAYUP	1			
1, 2, 3	IP 92050	Review Of Quality Assurance For Extended Construction Delays		07/23/2001	07/27/2001	Other Routine
	PS-RP	- RADIATION PROTECTION	3			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		07/23/2001	07/27/2001	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		07/23/2001	07/27/2001	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program		07/23/2001	07/27/2001	Baseline Inspections
	OL PREP	- INITIAL EXAM PREP	3			
1	V23184	BROWNS FERRY/EXAMS AT POWER FACILITIES		09/04/2001	09/07/2001	Not Applicable
	PS-RP	- RADIATION PROTECTION	1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		09/10/2001	09/14/2001	Baseline Inspections
	OL EXAM	- INITIAL EXAM	3			
1	V23184	BROWNS FERRY/EXAMS AT POWER FACILITIES		09/17/2001	09/21/2001	Not Applicable
	PS-SEC	- SECURITY	1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7113001	Access Authorization Program (Behavior Observation Only)		10/01/2001	10/05/2001	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7113002	Access Control (Search of Personnel, Packages, and Vehicles: Identification and Authorizator		10/01/2001	10/05/2001	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		10/01/2001	10/05/2001	Baseline Inspections
	PB6AWP	- ADVERSE WEATHER PROTECTION	1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111101	Adverse Weather Protection		10/29/2001	11/01/2001	Baseline Inspections
	PS-RP	- RADIATION PROTECTION	1			
1, 2	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation		11/05/2001	11/09/2001	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		11/05/2001	11/09/2001	Baseline Inspections
	PB6PI&R	- PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION	3			
1, 2, 3	IP 71152	Identification and Resolution of Problems		11/26/2001	11/30/2001	Baseline Inspections
	OL RQ	- LICENSED OPERATOR REQUAL	2			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification		12/03/2001	12/07/2001	Baseline Inspections
	PB6PI&R	- PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION	3			
1, 2, 3	IP 71152	Identification and Resolution of Problems		12/10/2001	12/14/2001	Baseline Inspections
	MB MODS	- MODS AND 50.59	3			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111102	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments		01/14/2002	01/18/2002	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111117B	Permanent Plant Modifications		01/14/2002	01/18/2002	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Browns Ferry
Inspection / Activity Plan
06/01/2001 - 05/31/2002

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	PS-RP	- RADIATION PROTECTION	1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		02/04/2002	02/08/2002	Baseline Inspections
	PB6FLOOD	- FLOOD PROTECTION MEASURES	1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111106	Flood Protection Measures		02/11/2002	02/14/2002	Baseline Inspections
	PS-RP	- RADIATION PROTECTION	1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		03/18/2002	03/22/2002	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		03/18/2002	03/22/2002	Baseline Inspections
	MB ISI	- INSERVICE INSPECTION	1			
3	IP 7111108	Inservice Inspection Activities		03/31/2002	04/04/2002	Baseline Inspections