

August 25, 2000

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

SUBJECT: SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - WITHDRAWAL OF
AMENDMENT REQUEST (TAC NOS. MA9489 AND MA9490) (TS 00-17)

Dear Mr. Scalice:

By letter dated July 13, 2000, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) applied for an amendment to the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (SQN), Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-77 and DPR-79. The proposed change would have modified the facility Technical Specifications (TS) by temporarily increasing the maximum temperature limit of the plant's ultimate heat sink (UHS or Tennessee River), as measured at the Essential Raw Cooling Water supply header, from 84.5°F to 87.0°F. Subsequently, by letter from Mr. Pedro Salas of your staff dated August 21, 2000, TVA withdrew this amendment request.

Mr. Salas' letter stated that recent changes in environmental conditions (cooler temperatures combined with increased rainfall in the Tennessee Valley region) have caused the rising trend in Tennessee River temperatures to slowly decrease. Based on current conditions and projections, the Tennessee River temperature is forecast to remain below SQN's current UHS temperature limit. Therefore, TVA has chosen to withdraw the reference amendment request. The letter also stated that TVA plans to develop a permanent solution for dealing with severe weather challenges to the UHS TS temperature limit that is either based on a higher temperature limit or on a risk informed TS action and that TVA expects to be able to update the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff on its plan by April 2001.

The Commission has filed the enclosed Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ronald W. Hernan, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-327 and 50-328

Enclosure: Notice of Withdrawal

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NOS. 50-327 AND 50-328

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR
AMENDMENTS TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSES

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to withdraw its July 13, 1999, application for proposed amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-77 and DPR-79 for the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, located in Hamilton County, Tennessee.

The proposed amendments would have revised the facility technical specifications (TS) by temporarily increasing the maximum temperature limit of the plant's ultimate heat sink, which is the Tennessee River, from 84.5°F to 87.0°F.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on July 20, 2000 (65 FR 45113). By letter dated August 21, 2000, TVA withdrew the proposed change on the basis that, with current conditions and projections, the Tennessee River temperature is forecast to remain below the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant's current TS temperature limit.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendments dated July 13, 2000 and the TVA's letter dated August 21, 2000, which withdrew the application for license amendments. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public

Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and accessible electronically through the ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of August 2000.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Ronald W. Hernan, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Mr. J. A. Scalice
Tennessee Valley Authority

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT

cc:

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