



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Spring City, Tennessee 37381-2000

MAR 02 2001

TVA-WBN-TS-01-02

10 CFR 50.90

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of) Docket No. 50-390
Tennessee Valley Authority)

**WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN) UNIT 1 - TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATION (TS) CHANGE NO. 01-02 - INCORPORATION OF
GENERIC TS CHANGE FOR TS BASES CONTROL PROGRAM**

In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.90, TVA is submitting a request for an amendment to WBN's license NPF-90 to change the Technical Specifications for Unit 1. The proposed amendment would revise the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) Unit 1 TS Section 5.6, TS Bases Control Program, to adopt NRC-approved Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) item TSTF-364, Revision 0. TSTF-364 revises the Industry Standard TS consistent with the recent revision to 10 CFR 50.59.

TVA has determined that there are no significant hazards considerations associated with the proposed change and that the change is exempt from environmental review pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). The WBN Plant Operations Review Committee has reviewed this proposed change and has determined that operation of WBN Unit 1 in accordance with the proposed change will not endanger the health and safety of the public. In accordance with the TVA Nuclear Quality Assurance Plan, TVA-NQA-PLN89-A, review of the subject change by the WBN Nuclear Safety Review Board (NSRB) was not necessary since an identical proposed change for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) was previously reviewed by

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NSRB (Reference NRC letter, dated November 21, 2000, BFN Amendments 226, 239, and 266). Additionally, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91(b)(1), TVA is sending a copy of this letter and enclosures to the Tennessee State Department of Public Health.

Enclosure 1 to this letter provides the description and evaluation of the proposed change, including TVA's determination that the proposed change does not involve a significant hazards consideration, and is exempt from environmental review. Enclosure 2 contains copies of the appropriate Unit 1 TS pages marked-up to show the proposed change. Enclosure 3 forwards the revised TS pages which incorporate the proposed change.

TVA requests approval for the change as soon as practicable and that it be made effective within 30 days of NRC approval.

If you have any questions about this change, please contact me at (423) 365-1824.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 (1994), I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Sincerely,



P. L. Pace, Manager
Licensing and Industry Affairs

Executed on this 2nd day of March, 2001.

Enclosures

cc: See page 3

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cc (Enclosures):

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ENCLOSURE 1

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN)
UNIT 1
DOCKET NO. 390

PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION (TS) CHANGE TS-01-02
DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE

The proposed license amendment would revise the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) Unit 1 Technical Specifications (TS), Section 5.6, "Technical Specifications (TS) Bases Control Program," to reference 10 CFR 50.59 rather than "unreviewed safety question". The change is made in accordance with NRC-approved Technical Specification Task Force Traveler (TSTF) numbered TSTF-364, Revision 0, as amended by NRC-approved editorial change (WOG-ED-24). The specific changes which TVA proposes are illustrated by the markup of the WBN TS, provided in Enclosure 2.

II. REASON FOR THE PROPOSED CHANGE

WBN TS Section 5.6 (Standard TS 5.5.14) describes the TS Bases Control Program. TS 5.6.2 allows licensees to make changes to the TS Bases without prior NRC approval provided the change does not involve a change to the updated FSAR or Bases that involves an unreviewed safety question as defined in 10 CFR 50.59. With the recent revisions to 10 CFR 50.59, the term "unreviewed safety question" has been eliminated. To accommodate this change, TSTF-364 is incorporated to modify TS 5.6.2 to reference changes pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59 rather than "unreviewed safety question". Also, editorial change WOG-ED-24, which substitutes "require" for "involve" in TS 5.6.2 is made for consistency in word usage.

III. SAFETY ANALYSIS

The proposed change revises the WBN TS Bases Control Program by deleting the reference to unreviewed safety question, consistent with the approved revised rule for

10 CFR 50.59. Further, the change is in accordance with NRC approved changes, TSTF-364 R0 and WOG-ED-24. The change is administrative and has no affect on the current review process for changes to the FSAR and Bases. Changes to the TS Bases are still evaluated in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59. Therefore, the subject change has no affect on the public health and safety or plant operations.

IV. NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION

TVA is submitting a request for an amendment to the WBN Unit 1 Technical Specifications (TS), Section 5.6, TS Bases Control Program, to adopt an NRC-approved generic change, Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) item TSTF-364, Revision 0 and WOG-ED-24, consistent with the approved revised rule for 10 CFR 50.59. The TSTFs are incorporated to modify TS 5.6.2 to reference changes pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59 rather than "unreviewed safety question".

TVA has concluded that operation of Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN) Units 1 in accordance with the proposed change to the TS does not involve a significant hazards consideration. TVA's conclusion is based on its evaluation, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91(a)(1), of the three standards set forth in 10 CFR 50.92(c).

A. The proposed amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change is an administrative modification of existing TS requirements for the TS Bases Control Program to reference changes pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59 rather than "unreviewed safety question." This change has no affect on the current review and approval process for changes to the Final Safety Analyses Report and Bases. Changes to the TS Bases are still evaluated in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59. As such, there is no effect on initiators of analyzed events or assumed mitigation of accidents or transients. Therefore, the proposed amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

- B. The proposed amendment does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change does not involve a physical alteration of the plant, add any new equipment, or require any existing equipment to be operated in a manner different from the present design. Therefore, the proposed amendment does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

- C. The proposed amendment does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The proposed change is an administrative modification of existing TS requirements for the TS Bases Control Program to reference changes pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59 rather than "unreviewed safety question". This change has no affect on the current review process for changes to the FSAR and Bases, and will not reduce a margin of safety because it has no effect on any safety analyses assumptions. Changes to the TS Bases are still evaluated in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59. For these reasons, the proposed amendment does not involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT CONSIDERATION

The proposed change does not involve a significant hazards consideration, a significant change in the types of or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite, or a significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Therefore, the proposed change meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), an environmental assessment of the proposed change is not required.

ENCLOSURE 2

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN)
UNIT 1

PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION (TS) CHANGE TS-01-02
MARKED PAGES

I. AFFECTED PAGE LIST

Page 5.0-8

II. MARKED PAGES

Attached

5.0 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

5.6 Technical Specifications (TS) Bases Control Program

This Program provides a means for processing changes to the Bases of these Technical Specifications.

5.6.1 Changes to the Bases of the TS shall be made under appropriate administrative controls and reviews.

5.6.2 Licensees may make changes to Bases without prior NRC approval provided the changes do not involve either of the following:

require

a. A change in the TS incorporated in the license; or

b. ~~A change to the updated FSAR or Bases that involves an unreviewed safety question as defined in 10 CFR 50.59.~~

5.6.3 The Bases Control Program shall contain provisions to ensure that the Bases are maintained consistent with the FSAR.

5.6.4 Proposed changes that meet the criteria of Specification 5.6.2 shall be reviewed and approved by the NRC prior to implementation. Changes to the Bases implemented without prior NRC approval shall be provided to the NRC on a frequency consistent with 10 CFR 50.71(e).

A change to the updated FSAR or Bases that requires NRC approval pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59.

ENCLOSURE 3

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT (WBN)
UNIT 1

PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION (TS) CHANGE TS-01-02
REVISED PAGES

I. AFFECTED PAGE LIST

Page 5.0-8

II. REVISED PAGES

Attached

5.0 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

5.6 Technical Specifications (TS) Bases Control Program

This Program provides a means for processing changes to the Bases of these Technical Specifications.

- 5.6.1 Changes to the Bases of the TS shall be made under appropriate administrative controls and reviews.
- 5.6.2 Licensees may make changes to Bases without prior NRC approval provided the changes do not require either of the following:
- a. A change in the TS incorporated in the license; or
 - b. A change to the updated FSAR or Bases that requires NRC approval pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59.
- 5.6.3 The Bases Control Program shall contain provisions to ensure that the Bases are maintained consistent with the FSAR.
- 5.6.4 Proposed changes that meet the criteria of Specification 5.6.2 shall be reviewed and approved by the NRC prior to implementation. Changes to the Bases implemented without prior NRC approval shall be provided to the NRC on a frequency consistent with 10 CFR 50.71(e).
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