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Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

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USNRC

June 26, 2003 (8:03AM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

June 25, 2003

Rules and Directives Branch
Office of Administration
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Gentlemen:

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) - COMMENTS FOR RULEMAKING
ON CONTROLLING THE DISPOSITION OF SOLID MATERIALS - VOL. 68, NO. 40,
FEDERAL REGISTER (FR) 9595, DATED FEBRUARY 28, 2003**

TVA appreciates the opportunity to comment on the subject FR Notice. Through the Notice, NRC is providing enhanced participatory rulemaking on alternatives for controlling the deposition of solid material that originate in restricted or impacted areas of licensed facilities under Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20 (10 CFR 20). TVA's comments are provided in the enclosure.

If you have any questions, please contact R. M. Brown at (423) 751-7228.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mark J. Burzynski'.

for Mark J. Burzynski
Manager
Nuclear Licensing

Enclosure

cc (Enclosure):

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

ENCLOSURE

TVA supports a risk-based method for the conditional or unrestricted release of slightly contaminated material. Specifically, the American National Standards Institute/Health Physics Standard (ANSI/HPS) N13.12-1999 screening levels based on 1 mrem/year are acceptable criteria for control of material if applied as follows:

- Each waste generator limited to the annualized ANSI screening levels; i.e., Becquerel/gram (Bq/g)/year
- Compliance based on evaluating,

$$A = \sum_i (C_i / \text{Screening Level}_i) \leq 1.0 \text{ where,}$$

A = the annual cumulative ratio

C_i = annual cumulative concentration, in Bq/g, for waste nuclide (i)

Screening Level_i = ANSI screening level, in Bq/g, for nuclide (i)

- Generators maintain disposition inventories and verify compliance with the yearly limit prior to disposition

This method will ensure that the annual waste from each generator does not exceed 1 mrem/year to a member of the public. In addition, it will ensure that it is highly unlikely that the total impact to a member of the public from all generators does not exceed the National Council on Radiation Protection limit of 100 mrem/year or the Environmental Protection Agency Code of Federal Regulation (40 CFR 190) limit of 25 mrem/year.