

October 19, 2005

10 CFR 50.55a

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Mail Stop: OWFN P1-35
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of)	Docket No. 50-296
Tennessee Valley Authority)	

**BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN) - UNIT 3 - AMERICAN SOCIETY
OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (ASME) SECTION XI, INSERVICE
INSPECTION PROGRAM FOR THE THIRD TEN-YEAR INSPECTION
INTERVAL**

This letter submits the Third Ten-Year Inservice Inspection (ISI) Program for Unit 3 of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. The Code of record for the Third Ten-Year Interval ISI Program is the 2001 Edition, 2003 Addenda of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI. The third Ten-Year Interval ISI commences on November 19, 2005.

The applicable regulation, 10 CFR 50.55a(g), requires that ISI examinations for ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 components of a water-cooled nuclear facility meet the ISI requirements of ASME Section XI. In addition, 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(ii) requires that the ISI Program be updated every 120 months to the latest NRC approved Edition and Addenda of Section XI, which is in effect 12 months prior to the start of the next 120-month inspection interval. The enclosed program update satisfies that requirement.

The enclosure to this letter contains the updated BFN Unit 3 ASME Section XI ISI Program for the third Ten-Year inspection interval, which conforms to the 2001 Edition, 2003 Addenda of the ASME Section XI Code. In addition, TVA has incorporated Risk-Informed ISI into the program. TVA submitted its

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Risk-Informed ISI program and methodology for the Second Ten-Year ISI Interval to NRC by letters dated April 23, October 25, November 10, 1999, and January 18, 2000. NRC approved the BFN Unit 3 RI-ISI program by letter dated February 11, 2000.

There are seven requests for relief submitted for staff review and approval with this program update. Six of the seven were reviewed and approved by NRC for use in the Unit 3 Second Ten-Year ASME Section XI inspection interval. The other request for relief, 3-ISI-21 is new and relates to the BFN Risk-Informed ISI program. One other request for relief, 3-ISI-1 (reactor pressure vessel circumferential weld examinations) which was approved by NRC for the remaining term of operation under the existing license (July 2, 2016), is being carried forward in the Third Ten-Year ISI inspection program and is included for completeness. TVA anticipates that other ISI requests for relief will be necessary during the BFN Unit 3 Third Ten-Year ISI interval. These relief requests would involve TVA's inability to obtain the specified examination coverage (greater than 90 percent) as a result of weld geometry or interferences. These relief requests will be submitted following the performance of the examinations when the specific examination coverage percentage has been determined.

There are no new commitments contained in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (256) 729-2636.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

William D. Crouch
Manager of Licensing
and Industry Affairs

Enclosure

cc: See Page 3

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cc (Enclosure):

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DTL:JWD:BAB

Enclosure

cc (Enclosure): w/o enclosure

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ENCLOSURE

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (BFN)
UNIT 3
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (ASME)
SECTION XI, INSERVICE INSPECTION (ISI) PROGRAM
SUBMITTAL OF THIRD TEN-YEAR INSPECTION INTERVAL PROGRAM

(SEE ATTACHED)