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Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Brenda E. Brickhouse
Vice President
Environmental Permitting & Compliance

RECEIVED

(5)

11/10/2011

76 FR 70169

January 27, 2012

Ms. Cindy Bladey
Chief, Rules Announcements and Directives Branch
Office of Administration
Mail Stop: TWB-05-B01M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Ms. Bladey:

DOCKET ID NRC-2008-0369 - COMMENTS ON DRAFT SUPPLEMENT 2 TO FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT (SFES) RELATED TO THE OPERATION OF WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2, TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY (TVA)

In response to the Notice of Availability published in the Federal Register Volume 76, No. 218 dated November 10, 2011, TVA has reviewed NUREG-0498, Final Environmental Statement 2, Related to the Operation of Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 2 - Draft Report for Comment (Draft SFES), dated October 2011.

TVA finds that the NRC's comprehensive assessment of the operation of WBN 2 contained in the Draft SFES meets standards for an adequate environmental impact statement under regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality. Our reviewers noted that, with the incorporation of the enclosed comments, the information in the Draft SFES accurately corresponds to the Environmental Report and supporting information provided in TVA's facility operating license application. TVA appreciates the opportunity to review and provide the enclosed comments on the Draft SFES.

Sincerely,

Brenda E. Brickhouse

Enclosure

SUNSI Review Complete

Template = ADM-013

E-RID = ADM-03

Add = B. Clayton (BAC2)

J. Giacinto (JFG2)

C. Fells (CXFS) J. Poole (JCP5)

Watts Bar Unit 2 Operation
Draft Final Environmental Statement (DFES), issued November 2011

TVA Comments

No.	Page No./ Line No.	Comment
1	xviii / 3	Insert space between "used" and "information"
2	2-101/10-12 and 18-21	As the DFES states, in 2008, TVA submitted its Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) dated 2007, as an environmental report (ER) in the application. In the list of references for Chapter 2, "TVA 2007a" and "TVA 2008a" are both citations for the same FSEIS. In the DFES, TVA's document is referred to as TVA's FSEIS and TVA's ER. TVA suggests that a single reference for TVA's 2007 FSEIS would improve clarity for the reader.
3	1-5 / 8	Text indicates there is a 45-day comment period on the DFES. On page xix, line 8, text indicates a 75-day comment period.
4	2-17 / 18	Consider replacing or supplementing the statement, "During summer, gray bats are known to roost in two caves within 8 km (5 mi) from the WBN site," with the following more specific information from the FSEIS, Section 3.4.3, page 60, "Small numbers (less than 500) of gray bats continue to roost in a cave approximately 3.3 miles from the project."
5	2-69 / 13	<p>In Section 2.4.2.7, Tax Revenues, consider adding information about TVA's Mitigation payments (see SEIS pg. 68, Section 3.8.7, second paragraph) under which TVA makes additional payments to local governments impacted by TVA activities during the period of constructing WBN.</p> <p>TVA notes that these mitigation payments are mentioned on pages 4-42 and 4-43 of the DFES. Adding a statement about mitigation payments in Section 2.4.2.7 would clarify that areas around WBN receive funds in addition to the annual in-lieu of tax payments.</p>
6	2-88 / 7	<p>The following statement is no longer accurate: "The [Watts Bar] fossil plant currently is not operating, but could be reactivated in the future." TVA demolished the Watts Bar Fossil plant in December 2011. Accordingly, TVA recommends this section be updated with information available in TVA's environmental assessment of Watts Bar Fossil Plant Deconstruction</p> <p>http://www.tva.com/environment/reports/wbf_deconstruction/index.htm</p>

Watts Bar Unit 2 Operation
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7	4-15 / 39-40	TVA recommends the following revision "While TVA does not conduct studies of avian mortality, no noticeable events of avian mortality associated with the existing transmission system have been recorded by TVA."
8	2-80/ 27	In the statement "...NPDES temperature limits for WBN outfalls to the Tennessee River are at or below 95°C, which...." the unit of measure should be changed to Fahrenheit.
9	3-13/ 21	In the statement "The WBN site is located on a 2.7-m (9-ft)- wide navigable channel...." "wide" should be replaced with "deep."