



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 18, 2012

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
3R Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2 – ACCEPTANCE OF
REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION CONCERNING RELIEF REQUEST 2-ISI-28
(TAC NO. ME8779)

Dear Mr. Shea:

By letter dated May 24, 2012, the Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) submitted a relief request (RR) 2-ISI-28 for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit 2. The proposed RR, if approved, would allow the licensee to perform ultrasonic testing to the maximum extent practical for selected N10 reactor pressure vessel nozzle-to-vessel welds. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this RR. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) and 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

J. Shea

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-2315.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Eva A. Brown, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-260

cc: Distribution via Listserv

J. Shea

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Eva A. Brown, Senior Project Manager
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OFFICE	LPLII-2/PM	LPLII-2/LA	DORL/LPLII-2/BC(A)
NAME	EBrown	BClayton	JQuichocho
DATE	07/17/12	07/17/12	07/18/12

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