



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

August 28, 2012

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

**SUBJECT: WATTS BAR NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED
LICENSING ACTION REGARDING APPLICATION TO REVISE WATTS BAR
NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 1 UPDATED FINAL SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT
REGARDING CHANGES TO HYDROLOGIC ANALYSIS (TAC NO. ME9130)**

Dear Mr. Shea:

By letter dated June 19, 2012, Tennessee Valley Authority submitted a license amendment request for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 1. The proposed amendment request seeks approval to revise the WBN Unit 1 Updated Final Safety Analysis Report to adopt a revised hydrologic analysis for the WBN Unit 1 site. The purpose of this letter is to provide the result of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. 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 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.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested and following, as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

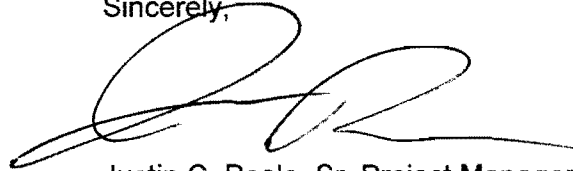
The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it provided technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements 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 contact Andy Hon, Project Manager, at (301) 415-8480.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Poole', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Justin C. Poole, Sr. Project Manager
Watts Bar Special Projects Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-390

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J. Shea

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If you have any questions, please contact Andy Hon, Project Manager, at (301) 415-8480.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Justin C. Poole, Senior. Project Manager
Watts Bar Special Projects Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-390

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