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6N 38A Lookout Place

September 28, 1987

Mr. James G. Keppler, Director
Office of Special Projects
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
4350 East-West Highway
EWW 322
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Dear Mr. Keppler:

In the Matter of the
Tennessee Valley Authority

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Docket Nos. 50-327
50-328

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) SYSTEM HEATUP

This confirms our telephone call of September 16, 1987, during which I informed you of my intent to initiate activities at SQN unit 2 leading to the nonnuclear heatup of plant systems. I am taking this action to establish the capability of the SQN systems and the operating staff to support the later return of the plant to operation after its extended shutdown period. It will also provide an opportunity to identify problem areas which are likely to occur, and take appropriate corrective actions.

These activities will include bringing ongoing work to logical closure, conducting comprehensive valve alignment, and heatup of the plant to full system temperature and pressure using nonnuclear pump heat. During this period, which should last approximately five to six weeks, I intend to conduct primary and secondary system testing and equipment checkout to identify any equipment problems which might impair future power operations.

As you are aware, we have previously reviewed deficiencies using the approved restart criteria. For the nonnuclear heatup, we will assess both open deficiencies and new issues using the technical specifications operability definition to comply with technical specification requirements for mode changes. The move toward system heatup will require that cable testing, hanger modifications resulting from the regenerated civil support calculations, and resolution of IDI issues be deferred. A document is being prepared to support existing conditions for these items. During the heatup period we will be able to plan these modification programs in greater detail to facilitate their effective completion after the cooldown. These and other unfinished SQN restart items will be completed at that time to support plant restart. Any issues identified subsequent to nonnuclear heatup will be addressed using technical specification requirements.

Mr. James G. Keppler

September 28, 1987

Sequoyah employees are ready to make the transition to normal operating conditions, and I am confident in their abilities to prepare the system for operation. Several pending licensing actions need to be completed before we begin the heatup and change to mode 4. These will be discussed with your staff along with the details of the heatup plan at SQW site prior to the change to mode 4. These activities are in consonance with the NRC staff in its 10 CFR 50.54(f) letter to TVA dated September 17, 1985.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Original signed by SAW

S. A. White
Manager of Nuclear Power

cc: Mr. G. G. Zech, Assistant Director
Regional Inspections
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