



Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Smyth-Dixie, Tennessee 37379-2000

Robert A. Fenech
Vice President, Sequoyah Nuclear Plant

September 20, 1993

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of
Tennessee Valley Authority

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Docket Nos. 50-327
50-328

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) - NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-327,
328/93-29 - RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Enclosed is TVA's response to William E. Cline's letter to Mark O. Medford dated July 23, 1993, which transmitted the NRC inspection report containing a request for TVA to provide answers to questions concerning the operation of the postaccident sampling system (PASS) and the training of the personnel operating the PASS.

If you have any questions concerning this submittal, please telephone C. H. Whittemore at (615) 843-7210.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Fenech

Enclosure
cc: See page 2

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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cc (Enclosure):

Mr. D. E. LaBarge, Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint, North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2739

NRC Resident Inspector
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant
2600 Igou Ferry Road
Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee 37379-3624

Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323-2711

ENCLOSURE

The following is TVA's response to NRC's request for TVA to provide answers to questions concerning the operation of the postaccident sampling system (PASS) and the training of the personnel operating the PASS.

QUESTION: What actions are being taken to make the PASS equipment operable?

ANSWER: The following modifications have been designed to either enhance the operation of PASS equipment or replace equipment that is inoperable for Units 1 and 2.

1. RCS hydrogen/oxygen analyzers: At present, the hydrogen analyzers are inoperable and the oxygen analyzers are functional. The new modification will replace both the hydrogen and oxygen analyzers with one analyzer (for each unit) that is capable of analyzing both gases. This modification is presently scheduled to start in October 1993 and finish in June 1994. In the interim, the appropriate back-up compensatory method for hydrogen analysis is being used.
2. RCS supply/return lines for continuous recirculation capability: This is an enhancement that should increase the effectiveness of the PASS by allowing sampling in all modes. The Unit 1 modification is presently scheduled to start in December 1993 and finish in February of 1995. The Unit 2 modification is scheduled to start in October 1993 and finish in January 1995.
3. Demineralized water pumps for improved water pressure: At present, the Unit 1 demineralized water pressure is inadequate to conduct a timely system flush. The Unit 2 demineralizer water pressure is fully adequate. The enhancement of adding a pump will increase the flushing effectiveness and will ensure a timely flush. The Unit 1 modification is presently scheduled to start in October 1993 and finish in March 1994. The Unit 2 modification is scheduled to start in October 1994 and finish in June 1995.
4. New dedicated communication system: The phone system that is presently being used is not a dedicated line for the Chemistry personnel. The new system has been designed to be a dedicated system. The modification is presently scheduled to start in December 1993 and finish in June 1994.

The modifications mentioned above are included in the Site Improvement Plan (SIP) and will be tracked and controlled as described in the Postrestart Plan.

QUESTION: What will the policy be for timeliness in repairing the equipment should it become inoperable in the future?

ANSWER: The policy for repairing PASS equipment following the restart of the units will be to assign items that support PASS and Chemistry sampling/monitoring requirements, a Priority 3. This priority is assigned to urgent work where a situation exists that has the potential to degrade station operations. Chemistry management will periodically review the work request data base to ensure that items designated by Chemistry are prioritized appropriately.

QUESTION: What actions are being taken with regard to the training of personnel to operate the PASS?

ANSWER: Those individuals whose assigned responsibilities include PASS support are required to successfully complete the annual PASS training sessions. All the technicians with this assigned responsibility have successfully completed this training. One of the objectives of this training is to be able to demonstrate the ability to obtain PASS samples and complete required analyses within the required timeframe. Any technician that fails to adequately demonstrate the ability to meet this objective will not be assigned responsibilities for PASS sampling.