

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

400 Chestnut Street Tower II

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April 1, 1983

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
ATTN: James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator  
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

RO BULLETIN 74-14 - BWR RELIEF VALVE DISCHARGE TO SUPPRESSION POOL -  
50-259, -260, -296 - BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

By letter from Norman C. Moseley of U.S. Atomic Energy Commission to J. E. Watson of TVA dated November 15, 1974, we received Regulatory Operations Bulletin 74-14 regarding BWR relief valve discharge to suppression pool. A requirement of that bulletin was to conduct a visual internal and external inspection of suppression pool structure for damage after an extended safety relief valve discharge to the suppression pool. In our response to the bulletin, reference TVA letter from J. E. Gilleland to N. C. Moseley dated December 6, 1974, we committed to begin conducting the visual inspection.

Since that commitment was made extensive modifications have been made to the units 1, 2, and 3 suppression pool structures and to the main steam relief valve discharge lines, supports, and bracing. Recently on Browns Ferry unit 1 we had two instances of extended relief valve discharge. After each of the extended blowdowns a visual inspection was made of the suppression pool and main steam relief valve discharge lines, bracing, and supports. Neither of these inspections revealed any structural damages.

Based on the modifications that have been made and our inspections following the two instances of blowdowns on unit 1, we do not believe it is necessary to automatically perform a suppression pool visual inspection after each extended relief valve blowdown. These inspections will be made only if there is reason to believe that any damage may have occurred because of physical evidence or the severity of the transient.

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Mr. James P. O'Reilly

April 1, 1983

Browns Ferry technical specification 4.7.A.2.k requires shutdown of the reactor and inspection of the suppression pool if the temperature of the pool water exceeds 130° F during an extended relief valve blowdown. Based on the above discussion, this requirement was removed from the unit 2 specifications by amendment No. 85 to unit 2 license No. DPR-52. We will propose removal of this same requirement from the units 1 and 3 specifications as part of the next reload license amendment.

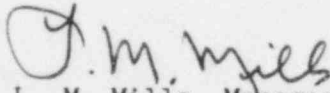
Until the technical specifications for units 1 and 3 are revised we will perform the required inspection on those units, provided the torus temperature exceeds the 130° F limit. The inspection will not be performed if the torus temperature does not exceed 130° F.

If you have any questions, please call Jim Domer at FTS 858-2725.

To the best of my knowledge, I declare the statements contained herein are complete and true.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

  
L. M. Mills, Manager  
Nuclear Licensing

cc: Mr. R. J. Clark  
Browns Ferry Project Manager  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
7914 Norfolk Avenue  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814