

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401  
400 Chestnut Street Tower II

April 19, 1984

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

In the Matter of the                    )                    Docket No. 50-296  
Tennessee Valley Authority )

By this letter, we are requesting an exemption from the two-year test interval requirements of 10 CFR 50 Appendix J for the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant unit 3. Browns Ferry unit 3 shut down to commence the cycle 5 refueling and major maintenance outage on September 6, 1983. Shortly thereafter testing of components pursuant to Appendix J started, thereby establishing the beginning of a two-year test interval for those components.

The next operating cycle for unit 3, cycle 6, is projected to end December 6, 1985. Consequently, all unit 3 components which were tested between September 6, 1983 and December 6, 1983 will have to be retested to comply with 10 CFR 50 Appendix J. It is for these components that the exemption request is made.

Without an exemption, approximately 50 containment isolation valves and all electrical penetrations would have to be retested. This retesting would require greater than 600 manhours, in an outage which is already fully scheduled with modification work.

We would like to obtain an early indication of NRC staff ruling on this requested exemption. If the exemption is not to be granted, we would retest the components during the current outage to avoid an early shutdown of unit 3 during cycle 6 to perform the testing. To preclude an extension of the outage duration, we must start the retesting, if necessary, within the next three weeks.

Please inform us in writing by May 3, 1984 of whether this requested exemption is expected to be granted. Approval is not needed by that date but indication of future approval is needed by then so that we can start the retesting if necessary.

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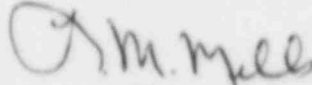
Mr. Harold R. Denton

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If you have any questions, please get in touch with us through the Browns Ferry Project Manager.

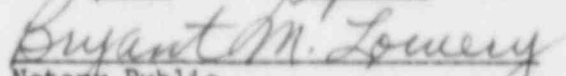
Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



L. M. Mills, Manager  
Nuclear Licensing

Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 19th day of April 1984.

  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 4/8/86

cc: Mr. R. J. Clark  
Browns Ferry Project Manager  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
7920 Norfolk Avenue  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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