TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
37401

TVA 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEOPLE IN PARTNERSHIP

October 10, 1973

Mr. John F. O'Leary, Director
Directorate of Licensing
Office of Regulation
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, DC 20545

Dear Mr. O'Leary:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY - BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 1 - DOCKET NO. 50-259 - FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-33 - ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE REPORT BFAO-7319W

The purpose of this report is to provide details concerning failure of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant unit 1 Reactor Water Cleanup System valve PCV-69-12. This condition was reported to the Region II Directorate of Regulatory Operations on October 1, 1973.

Description of the Incident

On October 1, 1973, during performance of SI 4.7.D section 1.B.1 (Primary Containment Isolation Valve Operability Test), Reactor Water Cleanup System valve PCV-69-12 came fully open from a throttled position and then could not be closed remotely. The reactor was at 1,000 psig during startup testing.

Investigation and Corrective Action

Valve PCV-69-12 is a Velan valve with a SMB-00 Limitorque operator. An investigation showed that the valve could be closed by the handwheel but not with the electric motor. The Limitorque operator was removed from the valve and an identical Limitorque operator, borrowed from unit 2, was installed in its place to return the valve to normal service. A functional test of this valve was satisfactorily performed with the new operator.

The Limitorque operator which was removed from unit 1 PCV-69-12 was taken to the shop for disassembly and repair. An inspection of the internal parts of the Limitorque operator revealed that a 120° segment of teeth on the brass worm gear was stripped. The exact cause of the

failure is not known. This is the first failure of this type we have experienced. The frequency of surveillance will be increased from quarterly to monthly until three successive tests have been achieved.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

B. F. Thomas
Director of Power Production

CC: Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director
Region II Regulatory Operations Office, USAEC
230 Peachtree Street, NW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303