

Tennessee Valley Authority, Post Office Box 2000, Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee 37379-2000

R.J. Adney
Site Vice President
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant

March 18, 1996

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

Gentlemen:

In the Matter of)	Docket Nos. 50-327
Tennessee Valley Authority)	50-328

SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT (SQN) - NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-327,
328/95-26 - INSTRUMENT SETPOINTS FOR ENGINEERED SAFETY FEATURE
ACTUATION SYSTEM (ESFAS)

This letter is TVA's reply to Mark S. Lesser's letter to O. D. Kingsley, Jr., dated February 1, 1996, which requested schedule information relative to resolution of instrument trip setpoints for ESFAS instrumentation channels contained in technical specifications (TSs) versus those contained in plant procedures.

SQN plans to resolve the subject condition in conjunction with the conversion to a standardized TS for each of Sequoyah's units. These standard TSs will clarify the intent of the trip setpoints provided by the TSs and provide fidelity between the TSs and plant procedures. We currently plan to submit the standard TS conversion in approximately one year. Please note that there is an ongoing effort between NRC and the Westinghouse Owner's Group to resolve this issue as it relates to NUREG-1431 (Westinghouse standard TSs). It is anticipated that this issue will be resolved in time to support SQN's conversion to standard TSs.

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

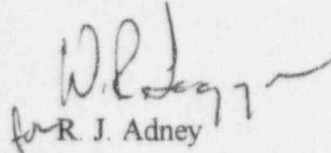
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In addition, a clarification is needed in regard to the subject condition and the safety evaluation report (SER) from NRC dated May 16, 1990. Specifically, this SER provided NRC's approval of TS Change 89-27 (TAC 75843) for Unit 1 (similar approval was provided for Unit 2). TS 89-27 revised specifications to reflect reactor protection system upgrades and enhancements that were implemented during the Unit 1 Cycle 4 refueling outage. This SER explicitly approved the Westinghouse setpoint methodology (WCAP-11239, Revision 4, "Westinghouse Setpoint Methodology for Protection Systems - Sequoyah Units 1 and 2 - Eagle-21 Version."). This methodology states that the "trip setpoint" is a "nominal" value. Based on the above information, it is not clear to TVA how NRC views the SER relative to implementation of TS 89-27. Therefore, TVA is requesting a clarification of the application of this SER in light of the noncited violation received in the subject inspection report.

If you have any questions concerning this submittal, please telephone R. H. Shell at (423) 843-7170.

Sincerely,


for R. J. Adney

cc: Mr. D. E. LaBarge, Project Manager
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