

October 16, 1996

Tennessee Valley Authority
ATTN: Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
President, TVA Nuclear and
Chief Nuclear Officer
6A Lookout Place
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE (SALP)
BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT (REPORT NOS. 50-260/96-99 AND
50-296/96-99)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

The NRC Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) has been completed for your Browns Ferry facility. The facility was evaluated for the period of March 19, 1995, through September 7, 1996. The results of the evaluation are documented in the enclosed SALP report. This report will be discussed with you at a public meeting to be held at the Browns Ferry site at 10:00 a.m., Central Time, on November 5, 1996.

The SALP process assesses licensee performance in four functional areas: Operations, Maintenance, Engineering and Plant Support. Your performance in Operations improved to a superior level, and the overall conduct in the area of Plant Support was superior. The functional areas of Engineering and Maintenance continued at the good level.

Operations was characterized by improved performance in corrective action program implementation, self-assessments, control room professionalism and shutdown controls. An effective transition was made to dual unit operations.

Maintenance performance during outages, planning, and problem identification was good. Unit 3 systems were thoroughly tested during startup. Weaknesses were identified with in-service testing, post-maintenance testing and procedure adherence.

Engineering was characterized by continued good performance toward committing resources to upgrade plant programs and facilities. Weaknesses were identified in support to operations and maintenance which resulted in equipment problems, inadequate safety assessments and testing problems.

In the area of Plant Support, there was continued superior performance in radiological controls, emergency preparedness, security and fire protection.

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Additionally, quality assurance effectively provided oversight review of plant activities and anticipated potential problems areas. Self-assessments for Plant Support were thorough while improving in other functional areas.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

I look forward to discussing this assessment with you.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by S. D. Ebnetter)

Stewart D. Ebnetter
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos. 50-260, 50-296
License Nos. DPR-52, DPR-68

Enclosure: SALP Browns Ferry Report

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

cc w/encl:

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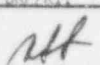


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