

50-259



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 17, 1996

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
BROWNS FERRY UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 (TAC NOS. M94347, M94348, AND
M94349)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

By a Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) letter dated October 18, 1996, and a David E. W. Leaver of Polestar Applied Technology, Inc. (Polestar) affidavit executed on July 18, 1996 at Los Altos, California, Polestar submitted calculations of control room operator and offsite radiation doses at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) Units 1, 2, and 3. This submittal provides revisions of calculations originally submitted in a TVA letter of April 12, 1996. The calculations were performed to support TVA's request of December 22, 1995 for amendment of the BFN technical specifications to permit increased main steam isolation valve leakage. Polestar has requested that the calculations submitted in the October 18, 1996 letter be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. The calculations contain information which Polestar has developed to perform dose calculations using NUREG-1465, "Accident Source Terms for Light-Water Nuclear Power Plants." A nonproprietary version of the document containing the calculations was also submitted.

The affidavit stated that the information submitted should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

- a. Information that discloses a process or method, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by Polestar's competitors without license from Polestar constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
- b. Information which, if used by a competitor, would significantly reduce its expenditure of resources or improve its competitive position in the analysis, design, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product.

We have reviewed the information provided by TVA and Polestar in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of statements by Mr. Leaver, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains trade secrets or proprietary commercial information.

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Mr. O. Kingsley, Jr.

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Therefore, the version of the submitted material marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public disclosure should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You should also understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Please call me at (301)415-1470 if you have any questions regarding this topic.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Joseph F. Williams, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

cc: See next page

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*see previous concurrence

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Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley

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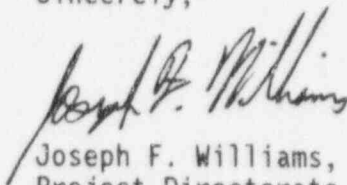
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Sincerely,



Joseph F. Williams, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
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cc: See next page

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT

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