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Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

Joseph R. Bynum
Vice President, Fossil Operations

January 31, 1997

Secretary
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Chief, Docketing and Service Section
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the January 13, 1997, letter and enclosed order sent to me by Deputy Executive Director Edward L. Jordan.

I have carefully read these documents and agree to comply with the terms of the order prohibiting involvement in NRC-licensed activities.

I would also like to address the following conditional statement which can be found on page 6 of the order:

If Mr. Bynum is currently involved in or overseeing any NRC-licensed activities at TVA or any other licensee of the NRC, he must immediately cease such activities . . . (emphasis added)

As you recall, I submitted a sworn declaration to the NRC over four months ago on September 19, 1996, in connection with my then upcoming predecisional enforcement conference. On page 3, paragraph 6, of that declaration, I stated that I was no longer in TVA Nuclear, and had not been since April 1993. I also stated, however, that as Vice President of Fossil Operations, my organization was responsible for providing some support services to TVA Nuclear such as turbine maintenance, motor repairs, and instrument calibration.

During my predecisional enforcement conference in Atlanta on September 23, 1996, the subject of my job responsibilities within TVA Fossil Operations was again raised. In that conference, I explained my position within TVA's Fossil and Hydro Power Group organization in the same basic terms as in my written declaration. In addition, NRC's Region II Administrator specifically acknowledged the fact that I remained involved in some support activities associated with TVA Nuclear.

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

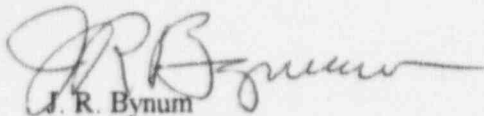
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Though my sworn declaration and my predecisional enforcement conference testimony address the type of support services that my organization performs for TVA Nuclear, neither the NRC's January 13, 1997, cover letter nor the accompanying order makes any reference to these services. More importantly, there is no specific mention that I should be in any way restricted or precluded from any future involvement in these type services. It is extremely important to me, however, that there be absolutely no question about whether these or similar support services could in any way be construed to constitute involvement in NRC-licensed activities. Accordingly, in an abundance of caution, I have decided to remove myself from overseeing support services which are provided to TVA Nuclear, and I will continue to do so for the same period in which the order prohibits my involvement in NRC-licensed activities. I believe this to be the most prudent course of action and the one that will best allow me to devote myself to my work without any question or doubt.

Following the period of prohibition, and at least five days prior to the first time that I engage in or exercise control over NRC-licensed activities or services in support of TVA Nuclear, I shall notify the NRC in accordance with the terms of Section IV.B of the order.

Sincerely,



J. R. Bynum
Vice President
Fossil Operations

cc: Director, Office of Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Assistant General Counsel for Hearings and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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