

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Tennessee Valley Authority
Sequoyah Units 1 and 2

Docket Nos. 50-327 and 50-328
License Nos. DPR-77 and DPR-79
EA 97-092

During an NRC investigation completed on January 24, 1997, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedures for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violation is listed below:

10 CFR 50.9 states, in part, that information required by regulations, orders or license conditions to be maintained by the licensee shall be complete and accurate in all material respects.

Technical Specifications, Sections 3.3.3.8, 3.7.11.1 through 3.7.11.4, and 3.7.12, require compensatory measures be established for degraded fire protection components. One of the specified compensatory measures consists of an hourly fire watch patrol.

Procedure FPI-0180, Revision 0, Compensatory Fire Watch Responsibilities and Control, Section 6.0 requires a fire watch log sheet (FPI-0180 Attachment 1) to be initiated every morning at the beginning of day shift and each fire watch to document fire watch activities on the log sheet.

Contrary to the above, the licensee failed to maintain information required by Commission regulations that was complete and accurate in all material respects. Specifically, on January 8, 17 and 21, 1996, fire watch personnel documented in the fire watch log that the required hourly patrols were completed for the control building when, in fact they were not. This inaccuracy was material in that an hourly fire watch patrol was not performed in a number of areas which could have identified a fire or any act that might result in a fire before damage to safety related components.
(01014)

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement I).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Tennessee Valley Authority is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region II, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the Sequoyah facility within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previously docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the

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time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.790(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information). If safeguards information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21.

Dated at Atlanta, Georgia
this 14th day of March 1997

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SYNOPSIS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Region II, Office of Investigations (OI) initiated this investigation on March 22, 1996, to determine if two firewatch personnel who were formerly employed at the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Sequoyah Nuclear Plant (SQN), failed to patrol their assigned areas and documented the firewatch journals as though they had completed their patrol.

The evidence developed during this investigation substantiated that both firewatch personnel failed to patrol their assigned firewatch areas and falsified their firewatch journals by claiming these areas were inspected.

The evidence did not substantiate that their actions were intentional or willful.

Enclosure 2