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President, TVA Nuclear and  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
6A Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-2801

June 19, 1997

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 3 - REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
REGARDING REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL WELD INSPECTIONS

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

The NRC staff is reviewing a Boiling Water Reactors Vessel Internal Program submittal requesting relaxation of reactor pressure vessel (RPV) weld inspection requirements. In its evaluations, the staff assumes a flaw density to determine RPV failure probability. To assist this effort, the staff is requesting information regarding inspections completed on the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Unit 3 RPV during the Cycle 5 outage. The information requested is as follows:

1. The number of recordable indications in the axial and circumferential welds, and
2. The volume of axial and circumferential welds inspected.

Your response to this request is voluntary; however, this issue affects Browns Ferry as well as all other boiling water reactor plants. Your prompt response will be of great help to the staff in its effort to resolve this issue in a timely fashion.

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. 50-296

cc: See next page

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**BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT**

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