



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

December 1, 2015

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street, LP 3R-C
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 – STAFF ASSESSMENT OF
RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION PURSUANT TO 10 CFR
50.54(f) FLOOD-CAUSING MECHANISMS REEVALUATION (TAC
NOS. MF5857 AND MF5858)

Dear Mr. Shea:

By letter dated March 12, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a request for information pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 50.54(f) (hereafter referred to as the 50.54(f) letter). The request was issued as part of implementing lessons-learned from the accident at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant. Enclosure 2 to the 50.54(f) letter requested licensees to reevaluate flood-causing mechanisms using present-day methodologies and guidance. By letters dated March 12, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15084A323), and June 16, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15169A906, Non-Public, Security Related Information), Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA, the licensee) responded to this request for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Watts Bar).

By letter dated September 3, 2015¹, the NRC staff transmitted to TVA a summary of the staff's review of the licensee's reevaluated flood-causing mechanisms. The enclosed staff assessment provides the documentation supporting the NRC staff's conclusions summarized in the letter¹. As stated in the letter, the reevaluated flood hazard results for local intense precipitation and streams and rivers were not bounded by the current design-basis flood hazard. In order to complete its response to Enclosure 2 to the 50.54(f) letter, the licensee is expected to submit a revised integrated assessment or a focused evaluation, as appropriate, to address these reevaluated flood hazards, as described in the NRC's September 1, 2015, letter (ADAMS Accession No. ML15174A257).

The enclosed staff assessment, determined that you provided sufficient information in response to the 50.54(f) letter. This closes out the NRC's efforts associated with TAC Nos. MF5857 and MF5858.

The Enclosure transmitted herewith contains Security-Related Information. When separated from the Enclosure, this document is decontrolled.

¹ ADAMS Accession No. ML15239B292

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J. Shea

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3809 or e-mail at Juan.Uribe@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Juan Uribe', written in a cursive style.

Juan Uribe, Project Manager
Hazards Management Branch
Japan Lessons-Learned Division
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-390 and 50-391

Enclosure:
Staff Assessment of Flood Hazard
Reevaluation Report

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

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J. Shea

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3809 or e-mail at Juan.Uribe@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Juan Uribe, Project Manager
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Japan Lessons-Learned Division
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