

performance, or possibility of operator error. The requested changes do not affect any postulated accident precursors, do not affect any accident mitigation systems, and do not introduce any new accident initiation mechanisms.

Therefore, the proposed TS change does not involve an increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

2. Does the proposed amendment create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated?

No. The core operating limits and required limits adjustments for equipment out-of-service conditions will continue to be determined using methodologies that have been approved by the NRC. The limits derived from approved methodologies will provide adequate margins of safety. The proposed changes do not involve any new modes of operation, any changes to setpoints, or any plant modifications, and do not result in any new precursors to an accident.

Therefore, the proposed TS change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

3. Does the proposed amendment involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety?

No. The core operating limits and required limits adjustments for equipment out-of-service will continue to be determined using methodologies that have been approved by the NRC. On this basis, the implementation of the changes does not involve a significant reduction in margin of safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

*Attorney for licensee:* General Counsel, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, ET 11A, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

*NRC Section Chief:* Allen G. Howe.

*Tennessee Valley Authority, Docket No. 50-390, Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 1, Rhea County, Tennessee*

Date of amendment request: May 1, 2003.

*Description of amendment request:* The proposed amendment would revise Technical Specification (TS) 3.8.7, "Inverters—Operating." The TS as currently written requires two inverters for each of the four instrument channels. The revision changes the requirement to one inverter for each of the four channels. The amendment is the initial phase of a project that will replace the vital inverters to achieve improvements in the reliability of the 120V AC Vital Instrument Power System.

*Basis for proposed no significant hazards consideration determination:*

As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. Does the proposed change involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated?

No. The proposed revisions to WBN's Vital AC Power System do not alter the safety functions of the Vital Inverters or the Unit 1 and Unit 2 120V AC Vital Instrument Power Boards. The initial conditions for the Design Basis Accidents (DBAs) defined in the WBN Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) assume the Engineered Safety Feature (ESF) systems are operable. The vital inverters are designed to provide the required capacity, capability, redundancy, and reliability to ensure the availability of necessary power to vital instrumentation so that the fuel, reactor coolant system, and containment design limits are not exceeded. Adding the Unit 2 loads to the Unit 1 inverters does not alter the accident analyses as long as the Unit 1 inverters are capable of handling the additional loads and channel separation is maintained. Design calculations document that the Unit 1 inverters have adequate capacity to support the addition of the Unit 2 loads and no changes are proposed that will impact the separation of the Vital AC Power System. In addition, the redundant capabilities of the Vital AC System as currently described in the UFSAR are not impacted by the proposed amendment.

The inverters and the associated 120V AC Vital Instrument Power Boards are utilized to support instrumentation that monitor critical plant parameters to aid in the detection of accidents and to support the mitigation of accidents, but are not considered to be an initiator of design basis accidents. Based on this and the preceding information, the proposed amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

2. Does the proposed change create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated?

No. When implemented, the proposed TS amendment will allow the Unit 2 Vital Instrument Power Boards to receive their uninterruptible power supply (UPS) power from the Unit 1 inverters instead of the Unit 2 inverters. Calculations have verified that the additional load will not affect the ability of the Unit 1 inverters to perform their intended safety functions. In addition, the inverters and the 120V AC Vital Instrument Power Boards are not considered to be an initiator of a design basis accident. These components provide power to instrumentation that supports the identification and mitigation of accidents as well as system control functions during normal plant operations. The functions of the inverters are not altered by the proposed TS change and will not create the possibility of a new or different accident. Further, the addition of the Unit 2 loads to the Unit 1 inverters is the principal change to the

inverter system and this change is bounded by previously evaluated accident analyses. Therefore, the proposed amendment does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

3. Does the proposed change involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety?

No. The plant setpoints and limits that are utilized to ensure safe operation and detect accident conditions are not impacted by the proposed TS amendment. The inverters and the 120V Vital Instrument Power Boards will continue to provide reliable power to safety-related instrumentation for the identification and mitigation of accidents and to support plant operation. Therefore, the margin of safety is not reduced.

Based on the above, TVA concludes that the proposed amendment presents no significant hazards consideration under the standards set forth in 10 CFR 50.92(c), and, accordingly, a finding of no significant hazards consideration is justified.

In conclusion, based on the considerations discussed above, (1) There is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

*Attorney for licensee:* General Counsel, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, ET 11A, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

*NRC Section Chief:* Allen G. Howe.

## Notice of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses

During the period since publication of the last biweekly notice, the Commission has issued the following amendments. The Commission has determined for each of these amendments that the application complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment.

Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for A Hearing in connection with these actions was published in the **Federal Register** as indicated.

Unless otherwise indicated, the Commission has determined that these