

August 31, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Diaz  
Commissioner McGaffigan  
Commissioner Merrifield

FROM: Luis A. Reyes **/RA/**  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: SEMIANNUAL REPORT - STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF  
DAVIS-BESSE LESSONS LEARNED TASK FORCE REPORT  
RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this memorandum is to forward for your information the third semiannual report on the status of implementation of the Davis-Besse Lessons Learned Task Force (LLTF) recommendations. The report covers the period from March to August 2004. The implementing plan was forwarded to the Commission in a memorandum dated March 10, 2003.

During this period, substantial progress has been made in completing the recommended actions. Thirty-one of the 49 recommendations have been completed. The schedules for completing the remaining recommendations were evaluated and adjusted, where possible, to meet a completion date of May 2005, as requested in the Chairman's May 3, 2004, memorandum on priority actions. There are three recommendations that may not be completed by May 2005 because they depend on completion of industry initiatives and potential rulemaking or other regulatory activities. Some of the notable activities completed since the last update are described below.

Activities addressing stress corrosion cracking included continued monitoring of outage inspection results pursuant to First Revised Order EA-03-009, which established interim inspection requirements for reactor pressure vessel heads, following up with plants that had discovered defects and evaluating requests for alternatives to the order. The interim inspection guidelines provide adequate protection while the staff continues to work with the industry to update inspection requirements in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Code.

The plan for implementing the recommendations of the Operating Experience Task Force was completed in April 2004. A team of Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) staff members will develop the revised operating experience framework (draft management directive and associated handbook) by December 2004.

Several enhancements to inspection program guidance and inspector training requirements have been implemented. This included revisions to guidance for assessing repetitive or multiple entries into Technical Specification action statements and for inspecting refueling outage activities. The inspector qualification program was revised to include a requirement of

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annual refresher training on the Reactor Oversight Program and training was provided to regional managers and staff.

Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) submitted a draft report on the Barrier Integrity Research Program in May 2004. The final report from ANL, incorporating staff review comments, is expected in December 2004. A working group of NRR and RES staff will use the report to evaluate whether the Nuclear Regulatory Commission should revise reactor coolant system leakage limits and require plants to install enhanced leakage detection equipment. The working group will make its recommendations by March 2005.

Finally, in response to the March 12, 2004, staff requirements memorandum, which directed that LLTF information on the NRC Web site be presented in an integrated manner and made more accessible to the general public, a new Web site was added to the NRC public Web site during this period. All LLTF-related information (correspondence, reports, briefing materials, meeting transcripts, etc.) is now accessible in one location.

Attachment: Memorandum dated 8/30/04 from J. Dyer and C. Paperiello to L. Reyes, "Semiannual Report - Status of Implementation of Davis-Besse Lessons Learned Task Force Recommendations"

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EDO-004

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