

No. 94-28
RELEASE
Tel. 301-504-2240

FOR IMMEDIATE

(Monday, February 14, 1994)

NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$25,000 FINE AGAINST TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY
FOR VIOLATIONS OF NRC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AT DAVIS-BESSE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$25,000 fine against Toledo Edison Company for violations of NRC requirements at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The plant is located at Oak Harbor, Ohio.

The violations were identified during NRC inspections in September through November 1993.

One violation involved maintenance work on the auxiliary feedwater system on October 20, 1993, which would have rendered the system inoperable during the maintenance if a steam or water line broke at a specific location.

The auxiliary feedwater system is a backup source of water for the two steam generators which produce the steam to drive the turbine-generator. The auxiliary system would be used if the main feedwater system were not available. The system could have been started manually if it were needed while the maintenance was being performed.

"Of particular concern is that many parts of the plant organization, including operations, planning and scheduling, engineering, and plant management, did not recognize that the auxiliary feedwater system would not have functioned as expected," stated John B. Martin, NRC Regional Administrator, in notifying the utility of the fine.

The utility was also cited for three violations identified during an NRC inspection of the service water system, which provides cooling water to various plant components (but not the reactor).

These violations were:

-- inconsistencies between valve positions indicated in procedures and the actual valve positions in the plant and other deficiencies in documentation for service water system valves;

-- beginning in 1989, the failure to verify monthly the position of several valves which had previously been kept locked in the correct position; and

-- failure to take adequate corrective actions when utility audits had previously identified problems with control and documentation for valves in plant systems.

"Taken together, these violations are indicative of weaknesses in the management and administration controls to ensure that plant equipment and systems are maintained in their proper lineups," Mr. Martin stated.

Once the violations were identified by the NRC, the utility took extensive corrective actions. Additional training was provided on the auxiliary feedwater system requirements, and plant personnel inspected all plant safety systems to check for proper valve position and documentation.

Toledo Edison Company has until March 14, 1994, to pay the fine or to protest it. If the fine is protested and subsequently imposed by the NRC staff, the company may request a hearing.

#