

June 9, 2000

NP-07

Mr. John E. Randolph, Environmental Specialist
Division of Surface Water
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Northwest District Office
347 North Dunbridge
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

Dear Mr. Randolph:

Subject: Violation due to Exceedance of Discharge Limitations for the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Number 2IB00011*FD

This information is being provided as you requested on May 12, 2000, during a conversation with a member of my staff, Mr. Al M. Percival. During this conversation it was stated and understood that this information was requested once the situation has returned to normal, even though the time period for this would exceed the 5 day written confirmation requirement given in our permit.

On April 1, 2000, the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station began its 12th Refueling Outage. During refueling outages the station drains water from the Feedwater System which contains hydrazine as an oxygen scavenger. Refueling outages occur approximately every 24 months. The Feedwater was pumped to the South Settling Basin (Number 1 Basin, Attachment 1). In addition, the station's steam generators were chemically cleaned resulting in additional hydrazine-containing water being sent to the South Settling Basin. This was discussed in a meeting with members of my Chemistry staff in your office on September 1, 1999.

The South Settling Basin was emptied and isolated to accept this process and cleaning water. Additionally, an aeration system was purchased and installed in the South Settling Basin in order to accelerate the rate of hydrazine decomposition.

Given the South Settling Basin volume and the volume of the process water, there was more than sufficient room in the South Settling Basin to accommodate all of the water prior to this time.

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On May 12, 2000 after heavy rainfall in the area and the additional generation of process water resulting from delays with plant startup, the South Settling Basin was filled to capacity. Hydrazine-containing water in the South Settling Basin was allowed to flow into the North Settling Basin. At this time the Outfall 602 pumps were isolated to prevent a discharge of hydrazine. A call was placed to your office seeking guidance on May 12, 2000. On May 13, 2000 at 1045 hours, the North Settling Basin pump was started to prevent the basin from overflowing and it remained on until May 14, 2000 at 0330 hours. Both the internal Outfall 602 and external Outfall 001 were monitored for hydrazine. The hydrazine concentration at Outfall 602 at the time of release was 40 ug/L (40 ppb), which violated our NPDES permit by exceeding the limitation of 8.7 ppb. The hydrazine concentration at Outfall 001 was not detectable.

There were no additional releases of hydrazine that were above our permit limits. Both settling basins were monitored until the remaining hydrazine had decomposed. Normal station drainage flowpaths were restored on May 26, 2000.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Gregory W. Gillespie, Manager - Chemistry, at (419) 321-7268.

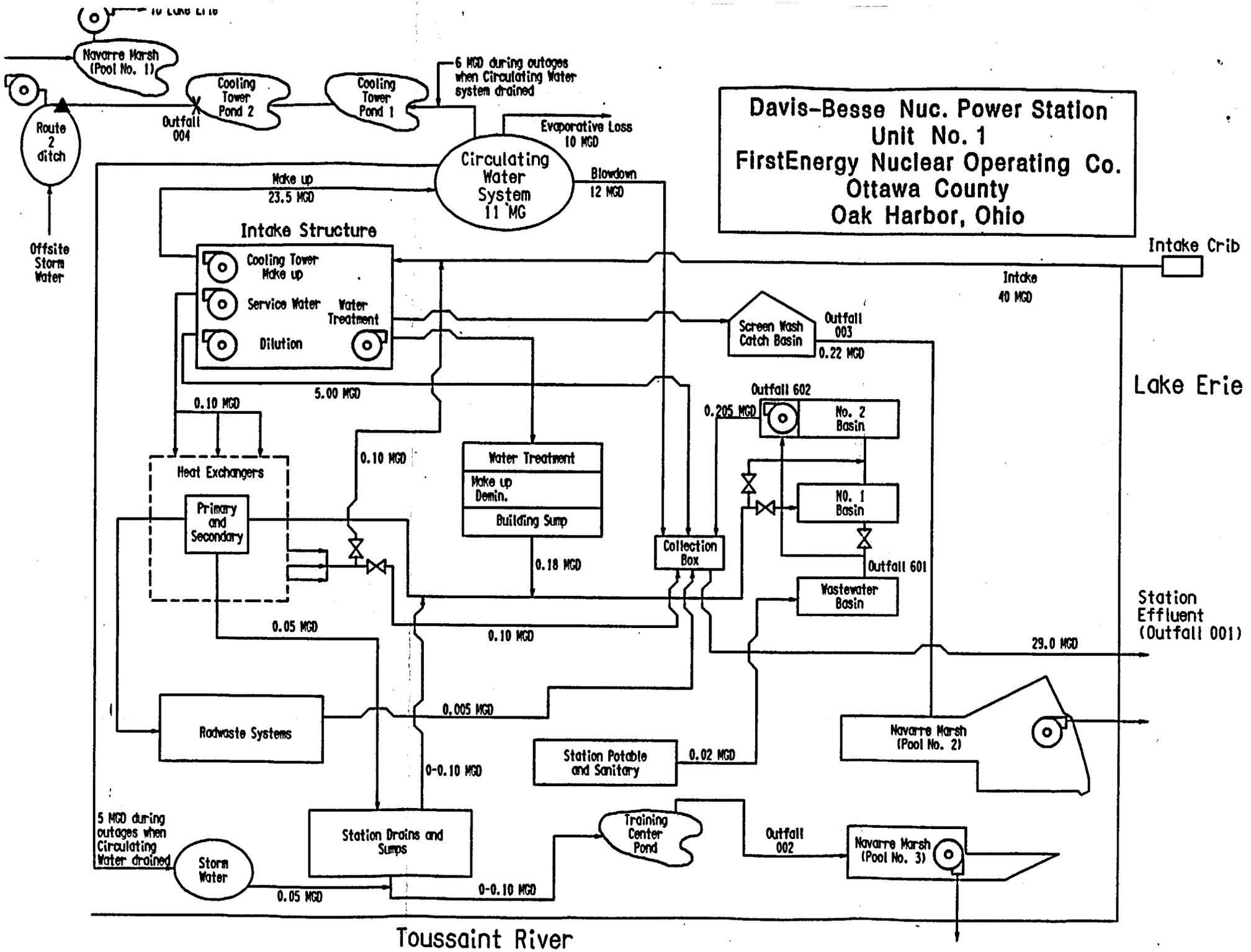
Sincerely yours,



James H. Lash
Plant Manager
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

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Attachment



Toussaint River

COMMITMENT LIST

The following list identifies those actions committed to by the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station in this document. Any other actions discussed in the submittal represent intended or planned actions by Davis-Besse. They are described only as information and are not regulatory commitments. Please notify the Manager - Regulatory Affairs (419-321-8466) at Davis-Besse of any questions regarding this document or associated regulatory commitments.

<u>COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
None	N/A