October 16, 2000

LICENSEE: FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC)

FACILITY: Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (BVPS-1 and BVPS-2)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF AUGUST 8, 2000, MEETING WITH FENOC STAFF TO

DISCUSS SHORT- AND LONG-TERM PLANS FOR BVPS-1 AND 2

On August 8, 2000, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with representatives of the FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC; the licensee) to discuss FENOC's short- and long-term plans for achieving optimum safe operation of BVPS-1 and 2. The licensee had requested this meeting in order to present their "Full Potential Program" to the NRC staff for informational purposes only. The licensee's presentation included discussion of the following topics: steam generator (S/G) management, power uprates, conversion of the sub-atmospheric containments to atmospheric containments, conversion to improved standard technical specifications (ISTS), capacity factor/outage improvements, S/G replacement for BVPS-1, license renewal, asset management, fuel management, reactor vessel issues, and the licensee's anticipated schedule for submittals to the NRC associated with these items. Enclosure 1 is a copy of the licensee's handout material, Enclosure 2 is a list of meeting attendees.

Based on questions asked by the NRC staff, the licensee provided the following clarifying and/or additional information:

- The BVPS-2 S/Gs are not currently targeted for replacement. Because BVPS-2 is approximately 11 years younger than BVPS-1, and as a result of more strict chemistry controls that it has operated under since it began operation, the BVPS-2 S/Gs are in better condition than those of BVPS-1. BVPS-1 currently has approximately 14.5 percent of its S/G tubes plugged; whereas, BVPS-2 only has approximately 2 percent plugged.
- The licensee considers balance-of-plant system/component issues to be the biggest challenge to increasing electric output by 6 percent. FENOC will be conducting a study to ensure that any needed modifications are identified.
- The licensee is conducting its conversion to ISTS in two phases. The first phase, which is ongoing, relocates current technical specification (TS) requirements that are not included in the improved standard to their licensing requirements manuals, which are part of the updated final safety analysis reports. The second phase will then be the conversion of the custom TSs to the ISTS format. The licensee intends to submit an application for this conversion after the request for 5 percent nominal power uprate. This will allow the conversion to the ISTS to include TS values that are based on the higher power level.

- The licensee's analysis to support conversion of the sub-atmospheric containments to atmospheric containments will be based on the higher power levels.
- The licensee's application for a 5 percent nominal power uprate, which they expect to submit in the later part of 2002, will include revised control room habitability/dose calculations.
- With regard to BVPS-1 reactor vessel issues, the licensee plans to submit an exemption request to allow the use of the "Master Curve" methodology for determining the fracture toughness of the reactor vessel material. The Master Curve methodology, which is currently being reviewed by the NRC staff for the Kewanee Nuclear Power Plant, provides a direct measurement of fracture toughness. Whereas, the currently required Charpy testing is an indirect measurement. The licensee's evaluation for use of the Master Curve methodology will be for both 40 years and 60 years of reactor vessel service.

The NRC staff stated that the presentation gave them a better understanding of FENOC's plans for BVPS-1 and 2. Additionally, the NRC staff requested that they be notified of any significant changes in the schedules for submittals associated with the Full Potential Program.

/RA/

Daniel S. Collins, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-334 and 50-412

Enclosures: 1. Licensee's Handout

2. List of Attendees

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- The licensee's analysis to support conversion of the sub-atmospheric containments to atmospheric containments will be based on the higher power levels.
- The licensee's application for a 5 percent nominal power uprate, which they expect to submit in the later part of 2002, will include revised control room habitability/dose calculations.
- With regard to BVPS-1 reactor vessel issues, the licensee plans to submit an exemption request to allow the use of the "Master Curve" methodology for determining the fracture toughness of the reactor vessel material. The Master Curve methodology, which is currently being reviewed by the NRC staff for the Kewanee Nuclear Power Plant, provides a direct measurement of fracture toughness. Whereas, the currently required Charpy testing is an indirect measurement. The licensee's evaluation for use of the Master Curve methodology will be for both 40 years and 60 years of reactor vessel service.

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LIST OF ATTENDEES

MEETING WITH FENOC STAFF ON AUGUST 8, 2000, TO DISCUSS SHORT- AND LONG-TERM PLANS FOR BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

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