

August 5, 1991

Docket No. 50-346

Mr. Donald C. Shelton
Vice President, Nuclear - Davis-Besse
Centerior Service Company
c/o Toledo Edison Company
300 Madison Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43652

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Dear Mr. Shelton:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RELATED TO REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION
FROM A REQUIREMENT OF APPENDIX A TO 10 CFR PART 20
(TAC NO. 75234)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an Environmental Assessment and
Finding of No Significant Impact related to your request dated December 5,
1989 as supplemented July 12 and 29, 1991, for an exemption from a requirement
in Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 20.

This Environmental Assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal
Register for publication.

Sincerely,

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Jon B. Hopkins, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
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cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY
CENTERIOR SERVICE COMPANY
AND THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY
DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 1
DOCKET NO.50-346
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 20 in response to a request filed by the Toledo Edison Company, Centerior Service Company and the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (the licensee), for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station (DBNPS), Unit No. 1, located in Ottawa County, Ohio.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action would grant an exemption from a requirement in footnote d-2(c) in Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 20 related to protection factors for respiratory protective devices. The footnote requires that no allowance is to be made for the use of sorbents against radioactive gases or vapors. The exemption would allow the use of a radioiodine protection factor of 50 for certain respiratory protection canisters used by workers at the licensee's facility.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's request for exemption dated December 5, 1989, supplemented July 12 and 29, 1991.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption is needed because the use of the sorbent canisters described in the licensee's request can potentially reduce the time required to complete those tasks that require the use of respiratory protection devices, thereby minimizing the amount of radiation exposure to plant operating personnel.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption will most likely reduce the work effort and occupational exposure for some tasks at DBNPS. The utilization of air purifying respirators in lieu of air-supplied or self-contained apparatuses, where possible, can result in person-rem reductions estimated overall at 25% for tasks requiring radioiodine protection. The light weight, less cumbersome air purifying respirators (i.e., sorbent canisters) can provide increased comfort and mobility in most cases, and result in increased worker efficiency and decreased time on-the-job.

With regard to potential radiological impacts to the general public, the proposed exemption involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect the potential for, or consequences of, radiological accidents and does not affect radiological plant effluents. Consequently, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemption involves systems located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternative to the Proposed Action

Because the Commission's staff has concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action, any alternatives would have either no significantly different environmental impact or greater environmental impact.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. This would not reduce the environmental impacts as a result of plant operations.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1, dated March 1973 and its supplement dated October 1975.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

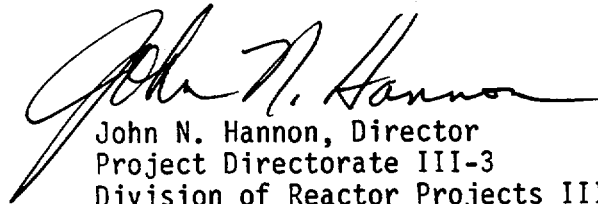
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for amendment dated December 5, 1989, supplemented July 12 and 29, 1991, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the University of Toledo Library, Documents Department, 2801 Bancroft Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43606.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of August 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John N. Hannon".

John N. Hannon, Director
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation