

March 5, 1991

Docket No. 50-346

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Mr. Donald C. Shelton
 Vice President, Nuclear - Davis-Besse
 Centerior Service Company
 Toledo Edison Company
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Dear Mr. Shelton:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT
 IMPACT - DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION (TAC NO. 77941)

In a letter dated November 5, 1990, the Toledo Edison Company requested a temporary exemption from the filing requirements of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(2) (iii). The staff is currently evaluating Toledo Edison's request.

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" regarding your exemption request. This Environmental Assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Dominic C. Di Ianni, 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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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONTOLEDO EDISON COMPANYCENTERIOR SERVICE COMPANYTHE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-346ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(2)(iii) to the Toledo Edison Company, (the licensee), for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station located in Ottawa County, Ohio.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action

The revision to 10 CFR Part 55, "Operators' Licenses," became effective on May 26, 1987, which established requirements for the administration of operating tests on nuclear power plant simulators. These regulations, in conjunction with 10 CFR 50.54(i-1), require facility licensees to use simulation facilities when administering operating tests for initial licensing and requalification. These regulations further require that a certified or NRC-approved simulation facility must be used to administer operating tests after May 26, 1991. By letter dated November 5, 1990, the Toledo Edison Company (the licensee) requested a temporary exemption from the schedule requirements for certification of a plant-referenced simulator.

The licensee intends to comply with 10 CFR 55.45(b) by certifying a plant-referenced simulator. Section 55.45(b)(2)(iii) of 10 CFR Part 55 requires that facility licensees preparing to use a simulation facility consisting solely of a plant-referenced simulator submit NRC Form-474, "Simulation Facility Certification," no later than 46 months after the effective date of this rule, that is, by March 26, 1991. The November 5, 1990, submittal by the licensee requested an exemption from this filing requirement to allow for the submittal of NRC Form-474 after March 26, 1991, but no later than September 1, 1991.

The proposed action is in accordance with 10 CFR 50.12 and 55.11, "Specific Exemptions," and is based upon the information provided to the NRC in the licensee's request dated November 5, 1990.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption is needed to assure that 93 plant modifications and the resulting modifications made in the Control Room are accurately included in the simulator.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The proposed action will have no incremental impact on the environment because the exemption only delays final certification of the simulator until after it becomes operable. The exemption will merely defer the required administrative burden of reporting that certification is complete for a nominal period of time to allow the licensee an opportunity to more fully comply with the spirit of the rule. In the mean time, operators will continue to be trained and examined on the offsite simulator (Power Safety International) as they have since 1977. Final certification of the new simulator, and compliance with 10 CFR 55.45, shall be accomplished by September 1, 1991.

Alternative to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission concluded that the environmental effects of the proposed action are not significant, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. This would not reduce the environmental impacts attributed to the facility and would still result in operators being trained and examined on the offsite facility.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the "Final Environmental Statement related to operation of the facility.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The Commission's 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.

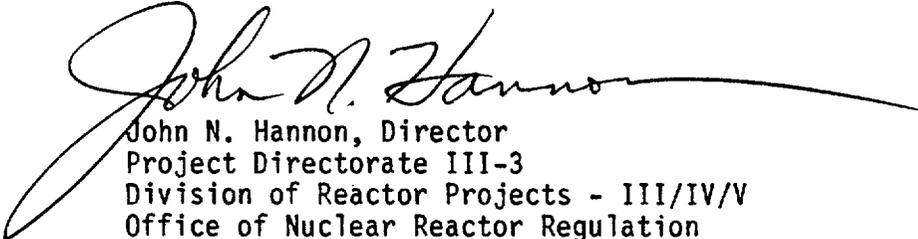
Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for amendment dated November 5, 1990 which is 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, Document Department, 2801 Bancroft
Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43606.

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

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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