

June 27, 2002

Mr. Howard Bergendahl
Vice President - Nuclear, Davis-Besse
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
5501 North State Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

SUBJECT: DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT 1 - WITHDRAWAL OF
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RISK-INFORMED INSERVICE TESTING
PROGRAM FOR AIR OPERATED VALVES FOR THE THIRD 10-YEAR
INTERVAL (TAC NO. MB0520)

Dear Mr. Bergendahl:

By letter dated September 11, 2000 (Serial Number 2668), FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC), submitted a request to implement a Risk-Informed Inservice Testing (RI-IST) Program as an authorized alternative to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) endorsed American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code specified by 10 CFR 50.55a(f) for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1. The submittal requested the implementation of a RI-IST program alternative for air-operated valves. Subsequently, by letter dated June 10, 2002 (Serial Number 2789), FENOC proposed to withdraw this request.

Your most recent letter stated that draft Regulatory Guide DG-1089, "Operation and Maintenance Code Case Acceptability, ASME OM Code," was issued for comment in December 2001, and is expected to be approved later this year. Your letter further states that upon approval of the draft Regulatory Guide DG-1089, combined with Regulatory Guide 1.175, "An Approach for Plant-Specific Risk-Informed Decisionmaking: Inservice Testing," the development and implementation of a RI-IST Program for air-operated valves can be accomplished within existing NRC guidance and requirements, except where relief may be needed from those requirements.

The staff hereby approves your request to withdraw your application for a RI-IST Program for air operated valves for the Third 10-Year Interval. This action completes staff activity on TAC No. MB0520.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Douglas Pickett, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-346

cc: See next page

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Douglas Pickett, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
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