

**From:** Lawrence Burkhart  
**To:** Brian Sheron; Jack Strosnider; John Zwolinski; Suzanne Black } NRR  
**Date:** 12/4/01 7:04PM  
**Subject:** LETTER TO D-B

A signed version of the attached letter, dated December 4, 2001, was faxed at approximately 6:40 p.m., to Mr. Howard Bergendahl of FENOC (fax no. 419-321-8545). Tad Marsh signed for John Zwolinski.

I contacted Mr. Bergendahl by telephone at approximately 6:55 p.m. and he said that he did not see the faxed copy when he left the office a few minutes prior to my call. Our fax machine indicates that it was transmitted successfully to Mr. Bergendahl's fax no. so he should have the faxed copy tomorrow morning. He said that he would call the PM (Stephen Sands) if he did not have a copy.

**CC:** Allen Hiser; Anthony Mendiola; Beverly Clayton; Bill Bateman; Douglas Pickett;  
Farouk Eltawila; Gary Holahan; Jacob Zimmerman; Keith Wichman; Satwant Bajwa; Stephen Sands;  
Tad Marsh; Toni Harris; Victor Dricks

B-185

December 4, 2001

Mr. Guy G. Campbell, Vice President - Nuclear  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company  
5501 North State Route 2  
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

SUBJECT: DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 1 - RESPONSE TO  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) BULLETIN 2001-01,  
"CIRCUMFERENTIAL CRACKING OF REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD  
PENETRATION NOZZLES" (TAC NO. MB2626)

Dear Mr. Campbell:

On August 3, 2001, the staff issued Bulletin 2001-01, "Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles," to the industry requesting that addressees provide information related to the structural integrity of the reactor pressure vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles for their respective facilities, including the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking that has been found to date, the inspections and repairs that have been undertaken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, and the basis for concluding that their plans for future inspections will ensure compliance with applicable regulatory requirements at their respective pressurized-water reactor designed plants. In addition, the Bulletin requested that licensees not planning to perform inspections prior to December 31, 2001, provide the technical basis for their planned inspection schedules.

You provided your response to the information requested in the Bulletin by letter dated September 4, 2001, as supplemented by letters dated October 17, October 30, November 1, and November 30, 2001. In addition, public meetings were held on October 24, and November 28, 2001, to discuss your responses.

Based on the information provided in your responses and the information available to the staff regarding the industry experience with VHP nozzle cracking, the staff finds that you have provided sufficient information to justify operation until February 16, 2002, at which time you will shut down the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1, facility for the next refueling outage and perform VHP nozzle inspections as discussed in your letter dated November 30, 2001. The commitments contained in your letter dated November 30, 2001, were integral to the staff's finding.

G. G. Campbell

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The staff's assessment regarding the closeout of your Bulletin 2001-01 response for Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1, will be forwarded under separate correspondence in the near future.

Sincerely,

John A. Zwolinski, Director  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-346

cc: See next page

G. G. Campbell

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The staff's assessment regarding the closeout of your Bulletin 2001-01 response for Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1, will be forwarded under separate correspondence in the near future.

Sincerely,

John A. Zwolinski, Director  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-346

cc: See next page

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cc: See next page

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\*See previous concurrence

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NAME	LBurkhart	BClayton for THarris	JStrosnider	SBlack for Gary Holahan	LMarsh for JZwolinski
DATE	12/4/01	12/04/01	12/04/01	12/04/01	12/04/01

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Mr. Guy G. Campbell  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company

Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1

cc:

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