

January 9, 2003

LICENSEE: FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
FACILITY: Beaver Valley Power Station, Units 1 and 2
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 11, 2002, MEETING REGARDING AN APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE AMENDMENT TO ALLOW FENOC TO CONVERT THE BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION CONTAINMENTS TO OPERATE AT ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE (TAC NOS. MB5303 AND MB5304)

On December 11, 2002, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, with support from a contractor, held a meeting at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, with representatives from FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC), the licensee for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Units 1 and 2 (BVPS-1 and 2); Westinghouse Electric Company (W), Fauske & Associates, Inc. (FAI); and Stone & Webster. The list of meeting attendees is included as Enclosure 1. Enclosures 2 and 3 are copies of the slides presented at the meeting by the licensee's consultant, FAI, and the NRC's contractor, Mr. Jack Tills, respectively. The presentations closely followed information presented in the slides.

By letter dated June 5, 2002, FENOC submitted an amendment request to allow plant operation of BVPS-1 and 2 with containments at atmospheric pressure. The application relies on WCAP-15844, "Topical Report on Modular Accident Analysis Program Version 5 (MAAP5) Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) Large Dry Containment Model," which was submitted separately by W and is being reviewed in parallel with the NRC staff's review of FENOC's application. By letters dated November 22, 2002 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML023250506 and ML023250519), the NRC staff issued requests for additional information (RAIs) to FENOC and W regarding the application and the topical report respectively. FENOC responded to the RAI by letter dated December 2, 2002, (ADAMS Accession No. ML023430155) and W responded to the RAI by letter dated December 4, 2002 (ADAMS Accession No. ML023520323).

FAI, the licensee's consultant, presented responses to the NRC staff's RAIs as docketed in the December 2, and December 4, 2002, letters. The NRC staff asked several questions during the presentation to seek clarification on various aspects of the responses.

The NRC's contractor presented an overview of preliminary findings from review of FENOC's application and the WCAP on which the application relies. The NRC staff stated that they have concerns with some of the proposed models included in the MAAP5 code that yield non-conservative results when applied to BVPS-1 and 2. The staff's concerns regarding the WCAP-15844 methodology must be adequately addressed before the NRC staff can approve the topical report for use in containment analyses and before the NRC staff can approve FENOC's amendment request.

FENOC

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The attendees from FENOC, W, FAI, and Stone & Webster stated that they understood the NRC staff's concerns regarding the WCAP and that they will conduct further internal discussions to develop supplemental submittals that address the NRC staff's concerns. FENOC also stated that they may evaluate other methods, such as a containment structural analysis, of demonstrating the containments' abilities to safely operate at higher pressures without having to rely on the WCAP-15844 methodology.

/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. List of Meeting Attendees
2. FAI Meeting Slides
3. NRC Contractor's Meeting Slides

cc w/encls: See next page

The attendees from FENOC, W, FAI, and Stone & Webster stated that they understood the NRC staff's concerns regarding the WCAP and that they will conduct further internal discussions to develop supplemental submittals that address the NRC staff's concerns. FENOC also stated that they may evaluate other methods, such as a containment structural analysis, of demonstrating the containments' abilities to safely operate at higher pressures without having to rely on the WCAP-15844 methodology.

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Accession No.: ML030090622

OFFICE	PM:PDI-1	LA:PDI-2	SC:SPLB	SC:PDI-1
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Official Record Copy

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FIRSTENERGY NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

DECEMBER 11, 2002

Participants:

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S. LaVie	NRC/NRR/Division of Systems Safety and Analysis
A. Notafrancesco	NRC/RES/Division of Systems Analysis and Regulatory Effectiveness
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F. Twogood	FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
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L. Smith	Westinghouse Electric Company
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C. Paik	Fauske & Associates, Inc.
D. Graves	Stone & Webster