

From: John Craig
To: John Grobe
Date: 2/24/03 8:55AM
Subject: Re: Followup to Commission Briefing on D-B 02/04/2003

Treat it like a letter, RIII has the lead to respond and coord with NRR, we'll issue the GT today.

>>> John Grobe 02/24/03 08:29AM >>>
John/Bill,

How do you want to handle this? Should it be a green ticket? Should we handle it in the Region?

Jack

>>> Paul Gunter <pgunter@nirs.org> 02/21/03 05:17PM >>>
To: Jack Grobe, NRC Region III, jag@nrc.gov
Bill Brach, NRC Headquarters, wmb@nrc.gov

Hello Jack and Bill,
It was good to see you at the Commission briefing on February 04, 2003
on Davis Besse Lessons Learned on February 04, 2003.

I am contacting you in follow up to a response made by Commissioner
Meserve at the briefing.

The transcript of the proceeding records [Page 133 Line 22 to Page 134
Line 22] documents the following question asked by Commission Chairman
Richard Meserve to me, as follows:

MESERVE: "Question, we had an extensive presentation by First Energy,
the variety of actions it has taken to try to deal with the
circumstances at the Davis-Besse plant. I wonder if you have any
criticisms or comments on the actions that the licensee has taken to
deal with the situation?"

I responded with a question regarding the fact that FirstEnergy has
decided to inspect and refurbish only 2 of the 4 reactor coolant pumps,
all of which are of the same vintage and susceptibility to the same
degradation mechanisms.

Commissioner Meserve responded,
MESERVE: "I don't think the Commission is in a position to respond to
comment on that, but I'm sure the staff would be in a position to be
able to answer your question about the reactor coolant pumps."

It is my understanding that the technical specification for allowable
leakage on all four of the pumps is zero. Generic Letter 88-05 addressed
Reactor Coolant Pump gasket leakage as degraded components. Davis-Besse
has a longstanding history of gasket leakage.

It is my understanding that the two pumps were not inspected and
refurbished because of accessibility issues requiring significant time
and investment on the part of FirstEnergy.

Doesn't this sound vaguely familiar?

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So, per the Chairman's response, would you please provide an answer to the following questions:

1) Did NRC's O350 Panel review FirstEnergy's analysis to forego inspection and testing of two of the four reactor coolant pumps to assure compliance with technical specifications and regulatory requirements?

2) If so, what were the NRC findings?

Thanks,
Paul Gunter, Director
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CC: Anthony Mendiola; Cathy Jaegers; Christine Lipa; W. Beecher; William Dean