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From: *ML* Steven Long  
 To: Allen Hiser; Andrea Lee; Anthony Mendiola; Beth Wetzel; Bill Bateman; Carol Moyer; Douglas Pickett; Edward Andruszkiewicz; Jay Collins; Jin Chung; Keith Wichman; Kenneth Karwoski; Michael Switzer; Stephanie Coffin; Stephen Sands; Steven Bloom; Terence Chan; Timothy Steingass; William Cullen  
 Date: 4/15/02 7:15AM  
 Subject: Re: Items for Today's 2:00 p.m. Davis-Besse Call

I basically agree with Bill on the necessary sequencing of the detailed root cause investigations and the repair activities. But, since that means that the root cause will be rather speculative at the time that the repair is made, I strongly believe that the repair strategy must be sufficient for all potential causes that have not been definitively ruled out by data or experiment at the time the repairs are made. At this point, the data are insufficient to fully support or completely dismiss the "best guess" degradation process that the licensee is pushing. Similarly, the data have not yet been shown to rule out corrosion of the cavity while the reactor is shut down and "cold." Since leakage onto the upper head is not likely to be completely prevented in the future, I suggest that the repair be designed with that in mind. The current plan to form an unclad "pothole" in the head material seems unwise, especially if the licensee expects us to really approve that repair for 15 years of future operation.

*Ex  
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Steve Long



*EP*

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 Act, exemptions S  
 FOIA- 2003-0018

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>>> Douglas Pickett 04/12/02 10:26AM >>>

*NRA*

I've informed the licensee that we need the final Root Cause report on the docket at least one week before we hold the Root Cause public meeting as required by the CAL. The licensee began to question whether the chemical analysis to be performed on the boron samples needs to be complete prior to the public meeting. In addition, once the 13-inch diameter hole is cut, there will be much more to analyze. We need to consider whether we can conduct a legitimate root cause public meeting without the chemical and failure analyzes being complete.

I also informed the licensee that a Commission meeting is being planned for Tuesday, May 28. In addition to the expected discussion on root cause and repairs, the licensee will be expected to provide their "get-well" program (i.e., a convincing argument as to why FirstEnergy is capable of safely operating Davis-Besse).

**CC:** Christine Lipa; Edwin Hackett; John Grobe; John Jacobson; Laura Collins; Laura Gerke; Melvin Holmberg; Nilesh Chokshi; Ronald Gardner; Victor Dricks