

March 6, 1997

EA 97-97

Mr. John K. Wood
Vice President - Nuclear
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
Centerior Service Company
5501 North State - Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-346/97002(DRS) AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Wood:

On January 17, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection of your implementation of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants" (the maintenance rule) at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

Your program for implementing the requirements of the maintenance rule followed the guidance provided in NUMARC 93-01, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated May 1993, which was endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated January 1995. Your program generally met the requirements of the maintenance rule; however, we are concerned by the lack of formal specific guidance for program activities and the recurrent lack of documentation justifying technical decisions. On a more positive aspect, we noted a significant strength in the development of system-specific periodic assessment reports. These reports contained the same type of information required for the refueling cycle report, but in greater detail for each system in the scope of your maintenance rule program.

The inspection team identified one violation which involved the failure to specify reliability performance criteria that were commensurate with plant safety. In addition, an unresolved item was identified regarding your structure monitoring program. Please provide your response to this unresolved item with your response to the violation.

The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice), and the circumstances surrounding the violation are described in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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J. K. Wood

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

/s/ M. Leach (for)

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-346
License No.: NPF-3

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report 50-346/97002(DRS)

cc w/encl: J. P. Stetz, Senior
Vice President - Nuclear
J. H. Lash, Plant Manager
J. L. Freels, Manager,
Regulatory Affairs
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Public Utilities Commission

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