

June 23, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: NSIR Staff

FROM: Michael Weber, Deputy Director/**RA**
Nuclear Security and Incident Response

SUBJECT: GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REVIEW OF NRC'S
OVERSIGHT OF DAVIS BESSE

I am providing for your information excerpts from the General Accounting Office's (GAO) review of NRC's oversight of the Davis Besse nuclear power plant in Ohio. The excerpt is from the "Highlights" and "Results in Brief" portions of the report entitled "NRC Needs to More Aggressively and Comprehensively Resolve Issues Related to the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant's Shutdown," GAO-04-415. The excerpts describe several perceived deficiencies in NRC's oversight of the plant, including weaknesses affecting internal decision-making and communications. Although the NRC does not agree with all of the findings identified by GAO (see reply on NRC's public website) and the report is not focused on NSIR programs, it is important for NSIR staff to be aware of the perceived weaknesses. You should consider whether programs in which you are involved could be criticized for the same weaknesses and what actions we should take to enhance our programs. Please feel free to discuss these actions with your supervisor.

Thanks.

Attachment: GAO Report Excerpts

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| NAME | MWeber /RA/ | | | | |
| DATE | 06/ /04 | | | | |

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