

January 31, 2012

The Honorable Dennis J. Kucinich
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

I am responding to your letter received November 21, 2011, requesting a public hearing in Northern Ohio to discuss recently discovered cracks in the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station shield building. During our subsequent telephone conversation, I explained the process we were following to evaluate the shield building and committed to keeping you informed of our ongoing efforts. On December 6, 2011, NRC staff briefed members of your staff on activities at Davis-Besse.

As you know, on December 2, 2011, the NRC determined, based on the information provided by FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Corp. (FENOC) and gathered by NRC staff and inspectors from Davis-Besse, that there is reasonable assurance that the shield building is capable of performing its safety functions and that the utility could proceed with restarting the plant. We also issued a Confirmatory Action Letter to the licensee that details and confirms FENOC's agreement to take certain actions to monitor and ensure the cracks in the shield building continue to not adversely impact safety going forward. The agency's independent assessment will be documented in an inspection report that will be issued within 45 days after the inspection is complete. I will ensure that you receive a copy of that report once it is available.

I understand you were able to attend the January 5, 2012, public meeting concerning FENOC's analysis of the Davis-Besse shield building cracks and the further activities the NRC plans to undertake. I appreciate your interest in attending this public meeting as part of our efforts to keep the public fully informed of the facts of this situation.

Please contact me or Rebecca Schmidt, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776, if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Gregory B. Jaczko