### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

## ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

Before Administrative Judges:

William J. Froehlich, Chairman Nicholas G. Trikouros Dr. William E. Kastenberg

In the Matter of:

FirstEnergy NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

Docket No. 50-346-LR

ASLBP No. 11-907-01-LR-BD01

(Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1)

March 10, 2015

#### ORDER (Terminating Proceeding)

On August 27, 2010, FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) filed to renew

its operating license for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1 (Davis-Besse) for twenty

years.<sup>1</sup> On December 27, 2010, Beyond Nuclear, Citizens Environment Alliance of

Southwestern Ontario, Don't Waste Michigan, and the Green Party of Ohio (collectively,

Intervenors) filed a hearing request,<sup>2</sup> which we granted.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>See</u> [FENOC's] License Renewal Application, Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station at 1.0-1, 1.1-1, 2.1-25 (Aug. 31, 2010) (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML102450567, ML102450563).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>See generally</u> Beyond Nuclear, Citizens Environment Alliance of Southwestern Ontario, Don't Waste Michigan, and the Green Party of Ohio Request for Public Hearing and Petition for Leave to Intervene (Dec. 27, 2010).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>See</u> LBP-11-13, 73 NRC 534, 588–89 (2011).

On September 29, 2014, Intervenors moved to admit a new contention arguing that because the recently promulgated Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel Rule<sup>4</sup> "no longer makes generic safety findings concerning the feasibility and capacity of spent fuel disposal," the issue had to be litigated in front of this Board before the Davis-Besse license could be renewed.<sup>5</sup> The Commission chose to review this and other substantively similar motions, along with associated petitions to suspend reactor licensing, based upon its "inherent supervisory authority over agency adjudications."<sup>6</sup>

On January 15, 2015, the Board denied Intervenors' motion to admit Contention 7, the last remaining contention still pending before the Board, concerning cracking of the shield building at Davis-Besse.<sup>7</sup> At that time, however, the Board did not terminate this adjudicatory proceeding because the Commission had yet to address the continued storage safety findings contention.<sup>8</sup>

On February 26, 2015, in CLI-05-04, the Commission denied the suspension petitions and Intervenors' motion to admit the new continued storage safety findings contention.<sup>9</sup> With the issuance of CLI-05-04, there are now no proffered or admitted contentions remaining in this

<sup>8</sup> <u>Id.</u> at \_\_\_ (slip op. at 36).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel, Final Rule, 79 Fed. Reg. 56,238 (Sept. 19, 2014); see also <u>Calvert Cliffs 3 Nuclear Project, LLC & Unistar Nuclear Operating Servs., LLC</u> (Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3), et al., CLI-14-08, 80 NRC 71 (2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>See</u> Intervenors' Motion for Leave to File a New Contention Concerning the Absence of Required Waste Confidence Safety Findings in the Relicensing Proceeding for Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station at 1–2 (Sept. 29, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>DTE Electric Co.</u> (Fermi Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3), et al., CLI-14-9, 80 NRC \_\_, \_\_ (slip op. at 2–3) (Oct. 7, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>See</u> LBP-15-01, 81 NRC \_\_, \_\_ (slip op. at 2) (Jan. 15, 2015).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> <u>DTE Electric Co.</u> (Fermi Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3), et al., CLI-15-04, 81 NRC \_\_, \_\_ (slip op. at 3, 31) (Feb. 26, 2015).

adjudicatory proceeding, and the Board's jurisdiction terminates.<sup>10</sup>

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 2.341(a), this order shall constitute the final decision of the Commission 120 days from the date of its issuance, unless within twenty-five (25) days a petition for review is filed in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 2.341(b) or the Commission directs otherwise.<sup>11</sup>

It is so ORDERED.

THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD /RA/

William J. Froehlich, Chairman ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE /RA/

Nicholas G. Trikouros ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE /**RA**/

Dr. William E. Kastenberg ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

Rockville, Maryland March 10, 2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See Va. Electric & Power Co. (Combined License Application for North Anna Unit 3), CLI-12-14, 75 NRC 692, 699, 701 (2012) (stating that a licensing board's "ruling resolving the last pending contention" is equivalent to a final decision under 10 C.F.R. § 2.341, and a licensing board's "jurisdiction ends after it has rendered a final decision"); see also Exelon Generation Co. (Byron Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 & 2 et al.), CLI-14-6, 79 NRC 445, 449 (2014) ("Under our practice, 'once all contentions have been decided, the contested [adjudicatory] proceeding is terminated.'" (quoting North Anna, CLI-12-14, 76 NRC at 699) (modification in original)).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> On March 6, 2015 FENOC filed a "Motion for Clarification Regarding Termination of the Davis-Besse License Renewal Adjudicatory Proceeding." This Order (Terminating Proceeding) addresses FENOC's concern.

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

FIRST ENERGY NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

(Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1)

Docket No. 50-346-LR

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing **ASLB ORDER LBP-15-9 (Terminating Proceeding)** have been served upon the following persons by Electronic Information Exchange.

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[Original signed by Brian Newell ] Office of the Secretary of the Commission

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015