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Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino  
Chairman  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Palladino:

SUBJECT: INCIDENT INVESTIGATION AT THE DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER  
STATION

We note with interest that your Staff has adopted a new format for the investigation of the recent incident at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, and has set up an incident investigation team. While the Commission has not yet acted on the more far-reaching recommendations contained in the Brookhaven report on accident investigation (endorsed by ACRS), we find the Staff experiment in this case to be a healthy step in the right direction. We await with interest the results of the experiment, especially in its ability to separate the safety issues from the regulatory issues, and to identify the real causes of the incident. We do wish to commend the Staff for its initiative.

Sincerely,

David A. Ward  
Chairman

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