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February 27, 1980

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attention: Mr. Robert N. Reid, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4  
Division of Operating Reactors  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Reid:

This is in response to your letter, dated December 18, 1979, regarding automatic reactor coolant pump trip (ARCPT) during small break loss-of-coolant accidents (LOCA). This response is late as per our discussion with your Mr. Bob Capra on February 12, 1980.

Toledo Edison has been reviewing the efforts requested to verify the correlation between reactor coolant system voiding and the reactor coolant pump (RCP) motor current. With the present evaluation tools no satisfactory means exist to accurately determine this correlation. As a result, in conjunction with other Babcock & Wilcox Owners, we will (1) not commit to install a safety grade ARCPT control system at this time and (2) continue the current manual tripping of reactor coolant pumps at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1.

Activities are being reviewed to modify current analytical techniques. Based on the outcome of this review, we may be able to provide a more realistic description of the plant response for small break LOCA conditions, which may allow us to either (1) provide a more accurate correlation between reactor coolant system voiding and RCP motor current, or (2) show that RCP tripping is not required. We will keep you advised of our progress.

Very truly yours,

RPC:FRM

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