Docket No. 50-346

OCT 2 0 1970

Mrs. John C. Croxton 2811 North Park Boulevard Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

Dear Mrs. Croxton:

I am pleased to respond to your letter of September 1, 1970, concerning the thermal effects associated with the proposed Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station.

The Toledo Edison Company announced on July 31, 1970, that the plant will employ a closed cycle cooling tower system, and it is expected that there will be only a limited discharge of water containing waste heat from the plant. In addition, Congress recently enacted the Water Quality Improvement Act of 1970 (copy enclosed), which smends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. This new legislation requires applicants for a construction permit and operating license for any nuclear power plant which will discharge effluents into the navigable waters of the United States to provide the AEC with a certification from the State or interstate pollution control agency, or the Secretary of the Interior, as appropriate, that there is reasonable assurance that the plant will not violate applicable water quality standards. The AEC would generally be prohibited from issuing any such permit or license without having received this certification. Where an application for the facility was pending on the date of enactment of the Act, as it was in the case of the Davis-Besse plant, section 21(b)(8) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, provides that if a construction permit is issued before April 3, 1971, a certification must be obtained within one year of the date of issuance of the permit.

You may be interested to know that under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, each Federal agency is required to consult with appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies concerning major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and to prepare a detailed statement concerning, among other things, the environmental impact of the proposed action. When we have completed

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our environmental statement for the Davis-Besse plant, probably within the next month or two, we will forward you a copy. Copies also will be sent to Governor Rhodes, the Council on Environmental Quality, and to the various agencies concerned.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by Chris L. Henderson

Parold L. Price Director of Regulation

Enclosure: Water Quality Improvement Act of 1970

Distribution: HLPrice JMFelton PAMorris HKShapar DR Reading PDR (50-346) HSteele w/note & cy of incoming

REVISED TO INCLUDE SUGGESTED CHANGE BY MR. SCHUR, OGC.

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Mrs. John C. Croxton 2311 North Park Boulevard Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

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Sincerely,

Harold L. Price Director of Regulation

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