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Docket No. 50-346

Honorable Thomas Ludlow Ashley
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Ashley:

I am pleased to respond to your October 26, 1970, referral of a letter from Miss Therese Bairley asking certain questions about the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant at Port Clinton, Ohio.

The reasons for the Toledo Edison Company's decision to utilize a natural draft cooling tower at the Davis-Besse plant are discussed on pages 11 to 13 of the enclosed environmental report submitted by the applicant in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The report notes that while State authorities had given tentative approval to the use of an open cycle system, there was uncertainty as to the applicable water quality standards, and the applicant decided to install a closed cycle cooling system at a cost of about \$9 million.

In regard to the policy of Canada, there is to our knowledge no present law which would require the use of cooling towers with nuclear power reactors in Canada.

Finally, as to the meaning and effect of the Reorganization Act, I believe it may be helpful to provide Miss Bairley a copy of the four enclosed press releases from the White House which describe the purpose of the new Environmental Protection Agency and its future role.

Sincerely,

(signed) Harold L. Price

Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation

POOR ORIGINAL

Enclosures:

1. Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station Environmental Report
2. White House Press Releases
3. Ltr to T. L. Ashley from T. Bairley dtd 10/18/70

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Dear Mr. Ashley:

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With regard to why the cooling tower was approved only after investigation proved it necessary, the utility made this decision largely in response to a recommendation by the Fish and Wildlife Service and due to public opinion favoring a cooling tower. Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and Toledo Edison considered 15 various plans for dissipating waste heat from the plant including the installation of cooling ponds. It was determined by plant designers that it would be possible to dissipate the returning warm water to the lake without exceeding water quality standards approved for Lake Erie by the Secretary of the Interior. The company estimates that the cooling tower will cost approximately \$9 million. However, for the reasons stated above, the company decided to use the cooling tower even though it was not required to meet State and Federal standards.

In regard to the policy of Canada, there is to our knowledge no present law which would require the use of cooling towers with nuclear power reactors in Canada. The AEC's own safety review and environmental control program is described in the enclosed staff statement.

Finally, as to the meaning and effect of the Reorganization Act, I believe it may be helpful to provide Miss Bairley a copy of the four enclosed press releases from the White House which describe the purpose of the new Environmental Protection Agency and its future role.

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Enclosures:

1. Staff Comments/Regulatory Process
2. White House Press Releases
3. Ltr to T. L. Ashley from

CRESS	T. Bairley dtd 10/18/70					
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Agency

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Harold L. Price
 Director of Regulation

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1. Staff Comments/Regulatory Process
2. White House Press Releases
3. Ltr. to T. L. Ashley from T. Bairley dated 10/18/70

CRESS TB, R12 bjs	OFFICE ▶ SURNAME ▶ DATE ▶	DR:ADM <i>BE</i> JBEasterling:blv -1/19/70	OGC <i>See previous letter for comment</i> 11/ /70	DRL 11/ /70	DR HLPrice 11/ /70	OCR 11/ /70
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Director of Regulation

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1. Staff Comments/Regulatory Process
2. White House Press Releases

B 11/18/70

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DATE ▶		11/12/70	11/13/70	11/ /70	11/ /70	11/ /70

October 18, 1970

Dear Mr. Ashley,

I am a student at Central Catholic High School in Toledo, and I would appreciate it very much if you could answer a few questions.

Why was the cooling tower at the Davis-Besse Atomic Power Plant approved only after investigation proved that one was required?

Why are we not adopted the same policy that Canada came up with?

And what is the meaning of the Reorganization Act and the effects it had on us?

Respectfully yours,
Theresa Bairley

1215 Corbin Rd
Toledo 43612

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Rec'd Utr. Dir. of Reg.
Date 11/2/70
Time 13:00

MEMO ROUTE SLIP Form AEC-93 (Rev. May 14, 1947) AECM 0240		See me about this. Note and return.	For conference. For signature.	For action. For information.
TO (Name and unit) <i>File</i>	INITIALS	REMARKS <i>Letter redrafted to reflect comments of Tom Englehardt and Paul Wallin of OGC</i>		
	DATE			
TO (Name and unit)	INITIALS	REMARKS <i>On 11/12/70. Comments concerned cost of the cooling tower and the legal req. of condenser towers.</i>		
	DATE			
TO (Name and unit)	INITIALS	REMARKS		
	DATE			
FROM (Name and unit) <i>BE</i>	REMARKS			
PHONE NO.	DATE			

USE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL REMARKS

GPO: 1968 O-294-619

Very truly yours,

Thomas Ludlow Ashley
M. C.

Ohio, 9th District

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