

Docket No. 50-346

APR

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POOR QUALITY PAGES

Honorable Delbert Latta
House of Representatives
Stony Brook, Long Island,
Dear Mr. Latta: 11790

This is in response to your letter of January 22, 1971, which enclosed two letters from Miss Sandra L. Zenser expressing concern about the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station near Oak Harbor, Ohio. ~~My staff's proposed rebuttal testimony in English and the limited experience~~
In response to a number of inquiries, we have prepared the enclosed summary which describes the proceedings concerning the licensing of the Davis-Besse plant. In addition, Miss Zenser may be interested in the enclosed Detailed Statement on the Environmental Considerations prepared by AEC's Division of Reactor Licensing.

Miss Zenser seems to be concerned especially that the operation of the plant may cause an increase in childhood cancer due to the exposures to pregnant women of 1-1/2 rems of radiation. Experience with plants similar to Davis-Besse indicates that no person living near the site boundary of the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant will incur an exposure anywhere near 1-1/2 rems of radiation. The increase in radiation exposures to persons living at the plant boundary as a result of releases of radioactivity in effluents from the Davis-Besse plant are expected to be less than 0.001 rem (1 millirem) per year, or approximately 1/100 of the radiation exposure the average person in the United States receives from natural background radiation.

No unusual or unplanned stack releases have occurred at the Enrico Fermi Unit 1 nuclear power plant during the last two years. During 1969 no gases were released. During 1970 radioactive gaseous releases were less than 10% of those permitted by the technical specifications of the AEC license for the plant. Miss Zenser may be referring to an operating malfunction at the Fermi plant which occurred in October 1966, and resulted in the plant being shut down for almost four years. As a result of a blockage of coolant flow, two fuel elements overheated and partially melted, which resulted in the release of radioactivity to the sodium

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coolant. Some of this radioactivity leaked from the primary system into the containment building and a small fraction of the gaseous activity thus released escaped to the atmosphere. No measurable offsite radiation was detected.

If we can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Honorable Delbert Latta
Member of Representatives

Sincerely,

(Signed) H. L. Price

Dear Mr. Latta:

This is in response to your letter of January 22, 1971, which enclosed your letter from Miss Zenser L. Zenser concerning about the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station.

Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Summary
2. Detailed Statement
3. Ltr fm Miss Zenser

As a matter of inquiry, we have prepared the enclosed summary of the proceedings concerning the licensing of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. In addition, Miss Zenser may be interested in the enclosed Detailed Statement on the Environmental Considerations prepared by AEC's Division of Reactor Licensing.

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It seems to be concerned especially that the operation of the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant will incur an exposure of 1-1/2 rems of radiation. Experience with plants of the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant will incur an exposure of 1-1/2 rems of radiation. The increase in radiation dose living at the plant boundary as a result of effluents from the Davis-Besse plant are less than 0.001 rem (1 millirem) per year, or approximately 1/100 of the radiation exposure the average person in the United States receives from natural background radiation. This amount of exposure will not change in any detectable way the chance that a child will have cancer.

With respect to radioactive gaseous effluents from nuclear power plants, the principal gas that will be emitted, in very small quantities, from the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant is krypton 85. The gas krypton 85 does not enter the human food chain in quantities that are of any significance from a health standpoint. Even if all of the vegetables that a person would eat were grown at the boundary of the reactor site, the radiation exposure to the individual would be less than one-billionth of a millirem. This exposure is totally unimportant when it is compared to the radiation exposure of about 100 millirems per year that everyone in the United States receives from natural background radiation.

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Docket No. 50-346

Honorable Delbert Latta
House of Representatives

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In response to a number of inquiries, we have prepared the enclosed summary which describes the proceedings concerning the licensing of the Davis-Besse plant. In addition, Miss Zenser may be interested in the enclosed Detailed Statement on the Environmental Considerations prepared by AEC's Division of Reactor Licensing.

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SURNAME	J. Cookitt	L. Rogers	P. Morris		H. Price	
DATE	4/13/71	4/1/71	4/1/71	4/1/71	4/15/71	4/16/71

No unusual or unplanned stack releases have occurred at the Enrico Fermi Unit 1 nuclear power plant during the last two years. During 1969 no gases were released. During 1970 radioactive gaseous releases were less than 10% of those permitted by the technical specifications of the AEC license for the plant. Miss Zenser may be referring to an operating malfunction at the Fermi plant which occurred in October 1966, and resulted in the plant being shut down for almost four years. As a result of a blockage of coolant flow, two fuel elements overheated and partially melted, which resulted in the release of radioactivity to the sodium coolant. Some of this radioactivity leaked from the primary system into the containment building and a small fraction of the gaseous activity thus released escaped to the atmosphere. No measurable offsite radiation was detected.

Sincerely,

If we can be of any further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation

Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation

Handwritten notes:
 Please see
 3/31/71

Handwritten:
 L. Summary
 Ltr to Miss Zenser

- Enclosures:**
- 1. Summary
 - 2. Detailed Statement
 - 3. Ltr to Miss Zenser

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Honorable Delbert Latta

- 2 -

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If we can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation

- Enclosures:
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 2. Ltr fm Miss Zenser

Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation

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revised per Morris' comments 3/31/71

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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

Docket No. 50-346

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House of Representatives

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*Revised per
Mr. Price
4/13/71*

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