



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

March 13, 1971

NOTE TO JEANNE COOK

The following are suggested responses to those portions of the attached letter that you have marked RPS.

The question regarding exposures to pregnant women:

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 nuclear power plant are expected to be less than 0.001 rem (1 millirem) per year. This value is about 1500 times smaller than 1 1/2 rems mentioned in your letter. One millirem per year is also about 1/100 of the radiation exposure that you will receive in a year from the natural background radiation due to cosmic radiation, natural radioactivity in soil, rocks, and building materials, and radioactivity in the body. This amount of exposure will not change in any detectable way the chances that a child will have cancer.

8008061026

The question concerning Dr. Sternglass and gaseous emissions:

The principal radioactive 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.



Lester Rogers, Director
Division of Radiological and
Environmental Protection