

IE Files

FEB 28 1977

Docket No. 50-346

MEMORANDUM FOR: R. F. Heishman, Chief, Reactor Construction and Engineering Support Branch, RIII

FROM: K. V. Seyfrit, Chief, Reactor Technical Assistance Branch, IE

SUBJECT: DAVIS BESSE UNIT NO. 1 - SUPPORT OF CONTROL AND INSTRUMENT CABLES ROUTED IN VERTICALLY INSTALLED CONDUIT (AITS F30248H1)

This memorandum confirms the technical guidance provided to D. W. Hayes of your office during the telecon with me on February 8, 1977.

Region III through AITS F30248H1 requested headquarters assistance in the assessment of the validity of the action taken by this licensee to conform to the requirements specified in Section 300-19 of the 1971 National Electric Code (NEC) regarding electrical cables installed in vertical raceways. At this facility, the licensee is committed to use the NEC for Class IE cable design and installation.

During a special electrical inspection the NRC inspector noted that instrumentation and control cables routed in vertical conduit risers did not conform to the criteria specified in Section 300-19 of the NEC. Section 300-19 requires that "... a cable support shall be provided at or near the top of the vertical raceway, plus a support for each interval of spacing as specified in Table 300-19(a)."

The licensee's corrective action was to revise their Cable/Conduit Installation Specification No. 7749-E-14. This document provides installation procedures for conduit, raceways, cables, and cable supports in vertical conduit risers. Details of the specific changes made to Specification 7749-E-14 are presented in the enclosed letter from the Licensee to RIII dated November 24, 1976, Serial No. 160.

RTAB has reviewed this matter and has concluded that the revisions are appropriate and do not conflict with the intent of NEC Section 300-19. Furthermore, we believe the revised cable installation design is acceptable for support of instrumentation/control cables installed in vertical conduit as described in your memorandum and further described in the Licensee's letter dated November 24, 1976 to Mr. Keppler.

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In our opinion, the licensee's requirement which calls for a cable restraint on either instrumentation or control cables which are over 20 feet in length in the vertical and terminated at the upper end exceeds the requirements of Section 300-19 of the NEC. In this application, the cable restraint is primarily for the purpose of termination protection and not related to conductor tension strain.

On the basis of our review and discussions held with Bechtel, Gaithersburg on this issue, we consider the matter closed and plan no further action on it unless requested.

Original signed by
K. V. Seyfrit

K. V. Seyfrit, Chief
Reactor Technical Assistance Branch
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

Enclosure:

Ltr., Lowell E. Roe, TECO to
James G. Keppler, RIII, dd.
11/24/76

RIP:1086/F30248H1

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