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FLASH NOTE

Roger Boyd, Director, Division of Project Management  
Thru: Walter R. Butler, Chief, Light Water Reactors Branch No. 4, DPM

PUBLIC CONCERN AROUSED BY NEWS PAPER ARTICLE IN STATE OF OHIO

The March 18, 1976 morning edition of the Cleveland Plain Dealer carried front page headlines stating, "1,488 Defects Found in Ohio Nuclear Plant". The article identifies the plant as Davis-Besse, Unit 1 (DB-1) and states the estimated cost of repairs to be \$400,000 plus delay in the fuel loading date. The article, since its publication on March 18th, has aroused a lot of concern and interest in the State of Ohio. I&E (Region 3) indicates they have been inundated with phone calls, including some from the Ohio congressional delegation. The LPM has also received calls, including one from the Ohio Power Siting Commission. From the calls received, it appears that people are reading the headlines, identifying the plant, and reacting on this basis alone.

The 1488 defects in safety related electrical wiring come from a list of items prepared by the Toledo Edison Company (TECO) in the summer of 1975 at the request of I&E (Region 3). Some of them involve significant deficiencies, but all have been or will be corrected prior to O.L. issuance. TECO indicates that the cost of repairs will be about \$300,000 and that the repairs will not cause any additional delay in the fuel loading date.

I&E (Region 3) and the LPM view these as old items and any safety related deficiency concerning electrical wiring will be corrected before issuance of an OL for DB-1.

TECO plans to hold a press conference during the afternoon of March 18th at the DB-1 site and elaborate on the list of defects.

Since the subject news article has caused a lot of public interest and further inquiries are probable, we are forwarding this information as a flash note.

Original signed by  
Leon B. Engle

Leon Engle, Project Manager  
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LWR 84 File

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