UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY AND THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY

Docket No. 50-346-OL

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(Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station)

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

By Memorandum and Order dated July 10, 1973, this Board ruled on a Petition to Intervene filed by the City of Cleveland, a Petition to Intervene filed by Ms. Evelyn Stebbins on behalf of the Coalition for Safe Electric Power, and a Motion from the State of Ohio requesting an extension of time within which to determine whether to file a Petition to Intervene. We will discuss the status of each, seriatim.

A. The Board denied the Petition of the City of Cleveland on the ground that it related only to antitrust matters which are the subject of a separate antitrust proceeding established by the Commission.

B. The Board denied the Petition to Intervene filed by the Coalition for Safe Electric Power for reasons stated,

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including the failure to file its petition timely. However, the Board provided the Coalition a period of 15 days to show good cause for the Coalition's untimely filing. In addition, the Board noted that it had reviewed all the contentions filed by the Coalition, and for reasons stated found that only two of the contentions were admissible and concluded that if the Coalition were to show sufficient good cause for failing to file timely, the Board would be prepared to admit Intervenor's contentions numbered 19 and 25 and to declare a hearing.

By response dated July 25, 1973, the Coalition submitted its reasons for late filing. The Board has reviewed same and finds that good cause has been shown. Accordingly, the Board concludes that the Coalition for Safe Electric Power shall be admitted as a party Intervenor, and that a hearing will be held on Intervenor's contentions numbered 19 and 25.

C. By "Motion for Reconsideration of Foreclosure of State of Ohio's Participation in the A.E.C. Operating Proceedings", undated, served on July 30, 1973, the State of Ohio. represented by its Office of Attorney General,

- 2 -

responded to the Board's Order. Apparently, the Motion as filed is based on some misunderstanding.

First, it should be noted that, contrary to the State's understanding, the Board did not issue the ". . . order of April 19, 1973 (38 F.R. 10661) . . ." Rather, we assume the State is referring to the "Notice of Receipt of Application for Facility Operating License; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Facility License and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing", dated April 19, 1973, issued by the Atomic Energy Commission and published in the Federal Register on April 30, 1973. It is this Notice, which, <u>inter alia</u>, provides opportunity for petitions to intervene; and under which this Board is delegated its responsibility and authority. Accordingly, we assume that the State did not suggest that this Board "reconsider" the Commission's said Notice.

The State's motion apparently is based in part on some confusion as to the existence of a construction permit for the Davis-Besse Facility. It should be noted that a construction permit has in fact been granted and that the subject Facility is presently being constructed

- 3 -

pursuant to such a permit. Thus, it should be made clear that the proceedings required by the ". . . order of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit" as referenced in the State's motion have been completed, and two Initial Decisions were issued thereon, on May 19, 1972, and July 9, 1972, pursuant to said Court Order. In contradistinction, the Hearing currently pending relates to a Commission-initiated proceeding pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix D, Section B, which sets forth procedures applicable to review of environmental considerations on facilities for which construction permits were issued in the period January 1, 1970-September 9, 1971.

Furthermore, the Board notes that unless good cause for delay is shown, it has no discretion to waive the Commission's direction that ". . . a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with . . . [Commission] not later than thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this Notice in the Federal Register" (Emphasis supplied). The only reason advanced by the State in support of its request for a second

- 4 -

extension of time is the intent of the State to delay its determination to file a petition to intervene until after the ". . . AEC has defined the issues to be considered at an operating license proceeding as reflected in its pending construction licensing proceeding determination" (presumably the State is referring to the "Section B" hearing now in progress). If this represents the State's position, it should be recognized as being in direct conflict with the Rules of Practice of the Commission. For example, see § 2.104, § 2.105, § 2.760(a), § 2.714, etc.

In other words, it appears the State's position is that the AEC is required to conduct a hearing on an application for an operating license on issues which the Commission must define based on the Commission's findings made during the construction licensing proceedings. The State cites no authority in support of this position; nor do we find any.

The motion of the State further ignores the Commission's mandate to this Board to consider and rule on the sufficiency of the petitions to intervene timely filed. The State's motion suggests that the State intends to file a petition

- 5 -

to intervene only if issues in the present proceeding are not resolved to the State's satisfaction. If this is a motive in the State's consideration of the matter, then the Board will immediately reject it. If the State has any basis for concern on health and safety or environmental aspects which it thinks should be raised with respect to the Davis-Besse Facility, then it has a responsibility -- indeed, a duty -- to raise these facts at the earliest possible time.

The position of the State would also suggest that additional motions will be forthcoming from the State requesting additional extensions of time. Since the Initial Decision of the Board in the pending Davis-Besse proceeding is expected about September 15, 1973, and considering the additional time that would be required by the State to review said Decision, we can, therefore, expect delay in the State's decision well into October.

Apparently, because of the confusion previously noted, the State also failed to submit a timely response within the fifteen (15) day period initially set by the Board, which expired on July 25, 1973. However, in view

- 6 -

of the discussion above, this Board is of the opinion that the State should be given a final opportunity to determine whether it wishes to intervene in the Noticed proceeding. Recognizing that the State has already enjoyed a <u>de facto</u> extension of approximately 75 days, we will permit the State seven (7) additional days within which to file a petition to intervene. Except as so provided, the State's motion for reconsideration is denied. In any event, as we noted in our earlier Order, the State is invited to participate in the proceedings in accordance with Section 2.715(c). In addition, while the Applicant's rights under the Rules may be materially affected by the State's motion, we have not considered that aspect at this time, in this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

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John B. Farmakides, Chairman

Issued at Washington, D. C., this 13th day of August, 1973.

- 7 -

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY, ET AL. (Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1)

Docket No. 50-346-OL

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of MEMORANDUM AND ORDER dated August 13, 1973 in the captioned matter have been served per the attached Service List by deposit in the United States mail, first class or air mail, this 13th day of August 1973.

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Attachment: Service List

cc: Mr. Farmakides Mr. Scinto ASLBP E. Goulbourne N. Brown Reg. Files ASLAB

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY, ET AL.)

Docket No. 50-346

(Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1)

SERVICE LIST

John B. Farmakides, Esq., Chairman Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U. S. Atomic Energy Commission Washington, D. C. 20545

Dr. Cadet H. Hand, Jr., Director Bodega Marine Laboratory University of California P. O. Box 247 Bodega Bay, California 94923

Mr. Frederick J. Shon Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U. S. Atomic Energy Commission Washington, D. C. 20545

Joseph F. Tubridy, Esq. Alternate Chairman Atomic Safety and Licensing Board 4100 Cathedral Avenue, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20016

Dr. Harry Foreman Box 395, Mayo University of Minnesota Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Donald H. Hauser, Esq. Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company Public Square Cleveland, Ohio 44101

Mrs. Evelyn Stebbins, Chairman Coalition for Safe Electric Power 312 Park Building 140 Public Square Cleveland, Ohio 44114 Joseph Scinto, Esq. Francis X. Davis, Esq. Regulatory Staff Counsel U. S. Atomic Energy Commission Washington, D. C. 20545

Gerald Charnoff, Esq. Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge 910 17th Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20006

Leslie Henry, Esq. Fuller, Seney, Henry & Hodge 300 Madison Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43604

Mr. Glenn J. Sampson, Vice President The Toledo Edison Company 420 Madison Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43601

Judge Herbert R. Whiting, Director Robert D. Hart, First Assistant Director Department of Law City Hall Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Director Ida Rupp Public Library Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

Reuben Goldberg, Esq. Devid C. Hjelmfelt, Esq. 1700 Pennsylvenie Avenue, N. W. Weshington, D. C. 20006

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14

Mr. George W. Pring, Chief
Environmental Enforcement Division
State of Ohio Office of the
Attorney General
361 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Mr. Russell O. Taylor 2033 Cedar Point Road Sandusky, Ohio 44870 Honorable Blaine Fielding Assistant Attorney General Room 829-A Seneca Towers 361 East Borad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215