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Docket No. 50-346

MAY 12 1972

Honorable William B. Saxbe United States Senate

Dear Senator Saxbe:

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DR Reading
LMMuntzing, DR
EJBloch, DR
GCase, DL
CHenderson, DR
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DMuller, DL
ASchwencer, DL
IPeltier, DL
GKnighton, DL

RWest, DL HShapar, OGC MMalsch, OGC GErtter, DR-4476 JCook, DR VWilson, DL (2) CO (3) OCR (2) MGroff, DL RTedesco ASLB

We are pleased to respond to your May 1, 1972 telegram to Chairman Schlesinger in regard to the Davis-Bense Nuclear Power Station hearing on suspension which was held May 2 through May 4, 1972 in Toledo, Ohio.

That hearing was conducted for the purpose of determining whether activities under the construction permit should be suspended pending completion of the ongoing NEPA review. We are currently examining the testimony placed on the record in the above hearing. The Licensing Board has been called upon to make its initial decision on or before May 19, 1972.

In your telegram you expressed concern over the ability to meet the growing need for power in the service area of the affected utilities. Substantial testimony was placed on the hearing record concerning this power need. A professional member of the Federal Power Commission described the impact that a delay in the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station may have on the expected reliability of the power supply in that service area.

We certainly intend to provide an appropriate environmental review and cost benefit analysis for the Davis-Besse plant giving proper attention to all elements of society including the ratural environmentalists. In addition to having required the applicant to show cause why construction should not be suspended pending completion of the ongoing NEPA review, we will also complete a full review of the environmental impact of this plant, including operational impact, before issuance of a full power operating license. The full NEPA review is currently expected to be completed late this year and will be evailable to the public earlier in draft form as provided for in 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix D.

Sinceraly,

Original signed by A. Giambusso

A. Giambusso, Deputy Director for Reactor Projects

bcc: Chairman Schlesinger

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SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCES

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Econorable William R. Baxbe United States Senite

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