

February 5, 1991

Docket No. 50-346

Mr. Donald C. Shelton  
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Dear Mr. Shelton:

SUBJECT: NRC BULLETIN NO. 88-11, "PRESSURIZER SURGE LINE THERMAL STRATIFICATION" - EVALUATION FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUED OPERATION (JCO) (TAC NO. 72128)

By letter dated November 19, 1990 (Serial No. 1873), the Toledo Edison Company requested an extension for the Justification for Continued Operation (JCO) dealing with the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1. The JCO results from requirements provided in Bulletin 88-11 addressing the thermal stratification that may exist in the Pressurizer Surge Line (PSL). In accordance with the scheduler requirements of the bulletin, the final report is due January 2, 1991. Babcock and Wilcox (B&W) Owners Group reported that based on the average of three heat-up/cool-down cycles per year experienced by Davis-Besse during the past 12 year, an additional five years of continued plant operation is assured as bounded by the fatigue analysis.

The bases for the additional five years is discussed in the November 19, 1990 letter which states that the conservative fatigue analysis justifies a total of 57 heatup/cool-down cycles for a fatigue usage factor of 1.0. The plant has experienced 41 heatup/cool-down cycles to date, leaving a margin of 16 cycles before the fatigue limit is reached. Thus, the remaining cycles are sufficient to justify five additional years of operation based on an average of three heatup/cool-down cycles per year as discussed above.

Although the conservative analysis indicated that sufficient margin justifies continued operation through January 2, 1991, based on the above and the license is submittal, there is an adequate margin to extend the JCO well beyond the seventh fuel cycle. Specifically, it is reasonable to assume that the margin established by a very conservative analysis will not be reached for at least five years. On this basis, we find your request to extend the JCO until the startup of Cycle 8 presently scheduled for November 9, 1991 acceptable.

Sincerely, original signed by

Dominic Di Ianni, Sr. Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station  
Unit No. 1

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