

## Toledo Coalition for Safe Energy

2355 Hempstead Road  
Toledo, Ohio 43606  
419-535-6920

October 25, 1994

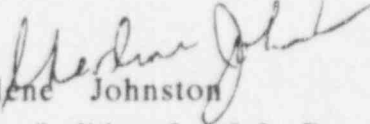
Chairman Ivan Selin  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

MrSelin:

Davis Besse Nuclear Power plant is twenty miles east of Toledo, Ohio. Davis Besse is one of 70 nuclear plants which has used Thermo-Lag under the pretext that it was a safe fire barrier and retardant. As you know Thermal Sciences, Inc. (the maker of Thermo-Lag) and its president, Rubin Feldman, were indicted September 29 by a federal grand jury on seven criminal charges related to conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government in relation to the effectiveness of Thermo-Lag.

The Toledo Coalition for Safe Energy demands the immediate shutdown of all reactors using Thermo-Lag until the material is removed and replaced. It is an outrage that these reactors have been allowed to continue to operate knowing that this is a fire hazard. Toledo Edison states that they are continuing hourly fire watches. Fire watches do not replace fire barrier material. Fire watches are not preventative. Toledo Edison states that they are under no deadline to have this problem solved. We demand that this letter be treated as a show cause petition under 10 CFR 2.206.

We would appreciate a timely reply.

  
Charlene Johnston  
Toledo Coalition for Safe Energy  
2355 Hempstead Road  
Toledo, Ohio 43606

Copies: President Clinton  
Senators Glenn and Metzenbaum  
Congresswoman Kaptur  
House Energy Committee Chair Dingell

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
IN THE MATTER OF ALL REACTOR LICENSEES  
WITH INSTALLED THERMO-LAG 330-1 FIRE BARRIER MATERIAL  
RECEIPT OF PETITIONS FOR DIRECTOR'S DECISION UNDER 10 CFR 2.206

Notice is hereby given that by separate letters dated October 21, 1994, the GE Stockholders' Alliance and Dr. D.K. Cinquemani; by letter dated October 25, 1994, the Toledo Coalition for Safe Energy; and by letter dated October 26, 1994, R. Benjan (Petitioners) request that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) take action with regard to the use of Thermo-Lag by all reactor licensees and that their letters be treated as Petitions pursuant to Section 2.206 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR).

Dr. Cinquemani and Toledo Coalition for Safe Energy request that the NRC immediately shut down all reactors where Thermo-Lag is used until it has been removed and replaced. GE Stockholders' Alliance requests shutdown of all reactors where Thermo-Lag is used until it has been removed and replaced with fire-retardant material meeting NRC standards. R. Benjan requests immediate shutdown of all reactors where Thermo-Lag is used.

As the bases for their requests, the Petitioners state, either individually or collectively, that (1) the widespread use of Thermo-Lag, in more than 70 reactors, presents a safety crisis; (2) the NRC has known since 1982 that Thermo-Lag fails NRC performance standards for material that protects vital electrical cables for ampacity rating and fire resistance; (3) Thermo-Lag has failed not only NRC tests, but almost all other independent tests; (4) Thermo-Lag is combustible, contrary to NRC regulations, and is an ineffective fire barrier; (5) the use of Thermo-Lag could lead to shorts, to failure of the cables in an emergency, and to fire; (6) Thermo-Lag is faulty

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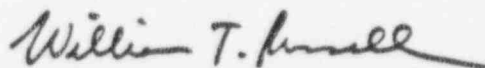
in that fraudulent ampacity ratings allowed utilities to use smaller cable than permitted by design requirements, causing the cable to overheat and its insulation to deteriorate; (7) the NRC has stated that fire at some nuclear power plants can contribute as much as 50 percent of the risk to a core meltdown, and a typical reactor will have three to four significant fires during its licensed lifetime; (8) Thermal Science, Inc., the manufacturer of Thermo-Lag, and its president were indicted by a Federal grand jury on seven criminal charges related to conspiracy to defraud the U.S. Government in regard to the effectiveness of Thermo-Lag; and (9) the hourly fire watches at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant operated by Toledo Edison do not replace fire barrier material and do not prevent fires.

The Petitions are being treated pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations and have been referred to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. As provided by 10 CFR 2.206, appropriate action will be taken on these Petitions within a reasonable time. By letter dated December 15, 1994, the Director denied the requests of GE Stockholders' Alliance, Dr. Cinquemani, Toledo Coalition for Safe Energy, and R. Benjan for immediate suspension of the operating licenses of all reactors where Thermo-Lag is used.

Copies of the Petitions are available for inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room at 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15th day of December 1994.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



William T. Russell, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation