

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20666

March 30, 1992

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3509

Dear Congresswoman Kaptur:

I am providing the following information in response to your letter of March 13, 1992, to Chairman Selin in which you inquired about safety violations cited in a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) report and the status of efforts to correct any outstanding problems at Davis-Besse. In December 1991, the NRC published NUREG-1435, Supplement 1, "Status of Safety Issues at Licensed Power Plants," in which it provided the status of the licensees' efforts to implement the Three Mile Island Action Plan Requirements. The report showed that the licensee had not yet implemented three unresolved safety issues and three generic safety issues at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1. This number of unimplemented actions is comparable to other U.S. nuclear plants. The licensee has now implemented four of those six issues at Davis-Besse. The remaining issues are: (1) station blackout (i.e. loss of electrical power); and (2) seismic qualification of equipment (i.e., earthquake protection). These issues have been resolved and are on a schedule to be implemented within one year and three years, respectively.

The NRC has allowed operation of nuclear plants pending implementation of these issues only after ensuring that sufficient compensatory measures have been taken or after determining that plant operation presented no undue risk to the public health and safety. In that regard, the NRC found that the operation of Davis-Besse with the six unimplemented issues presented no undue risk to the public health and safety. Continued operation while the two remaining issues are implemented will likewise present no undue risk to the public health and safety.

I hope this responds to your inquiry.

Sincerely,

James M. Taylor Executive Director for Operations

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