

November 22, 1995

Mr. John P. Stetz
Vice President - Nuclear
Davis-Besse Nuclear Plant
Centerior Service Company
c/o Toledo Edison Company
300 Madison Avenue
Toledo, OH 43652

SUBJECT: INSPECTION AT DAVIS-BESSE (REPORT NO. 50-346/95008)

Dear Mr. Stetz:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. S. Stasek and others of this office on August 23, 1995, through October 11, 1995. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

You should note that this inspection report represents an integrated product of a number of diverse inspections that were conducted during the inspection period. The summary contained in the report provides an overview of our assessment of your performance in the four functional areas (Operations, Maintenance, Engineering, and Plant Support) in which inspections were performed.

Based on the results of this inspection, we find that Davis-Besse operational activities continued to be conducted in a conservative manner. Safety-related equipment also continued to exhibit a high level of reliability and availability. Operators responded to alarms and abnormal conditions in a good manner. The Emergency Preparedness (EP) exercise adequately met all exercise objectives and demonstrated excellent implementation of the EP Program.

However, certain of your activities did appear to be in violation of NRC requirements as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation is of concern because it involved a longstanding failure to properly maintain Ultimate Heat Sink temperature monitoring instrumentation to assure that Technical Specification limits would not be exceeded. Of particular concern is the fact that despite earlier opportunities, including questions from NRC inspectors, you did not aggressively pursue this issue initially. However, once identified, your corrective action, root cause determination, and extent of condition evaluation associated with this issue were excellent.

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Also, we identified that some portions of your conduct of control room operations have declined as they relate to certain administrative requirements. Specifically, use of the inoperable equipment tracking log as well as reactor operator use of shift turnover records were inadequate. Both of these findings have been addressed by operations management, however, further review of the shift turnover deficiency is merited and is being tracked as an unresolved item. We are concerned with these and a number of other problems that have arisen over the last few months. In addition, a safety system failure occurred subsequent to this report period involving the spent fuel pool area emergency ventilation system being inoperable for approximately 6 weeks without your knowledge. We feel these issues may be symptomatic of an underlying staff complacency. We intend to conduct a management meeting in the Region III office with you in the near future to discuss all of these concerns and will contact your staff to arrange for an appropriate date and time to hold this meeting.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by R. D. Lanksbury

R. D. Lanksbury, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 2

Docket Nos. 50-346, 72-14

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 50-346/95008(DRP)

cc w/encl: D. C. Shelton, Senior
 Vice President - Nuclear
 J. K. Wood, Plant Manager
 W. T. O'Connor, Manager
 Regulatory Affairs
 State Liaison Officer, State
 of Ohio
 Robert E. Owen, Ohio
 Department of Health
 C. A. Glazer, State of Ohio,
 Public Utilities Commission

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