

MEMORANDUM FOR: Edward G. Greenman, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects  
Region III

FROM: John A. Zwolinski, Assistant Director  
for Region III Reactors  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V

SUBJECT: TIA - DAVIS-BESSE LOW LEVEL RADIOACTIVITY  
RELEASE (TAC NO. M80324)

Reference: Memorandum from L. Greger, Region III to J. Hall,  
NRR, dated March 22, 1991.

We have reviewed the referenced memorandum requesting assistance as to whether a 10 CFR 50.59 review should have been performed for a broken pipe in the Station Drainage and Discharge System which released low level radioactivity onsite. A regional inspection discovered that the plant had been operating with this broken pipe without performing an evaluation regarding the possible existence of an unreviewed safety question. We note that the licensee found the condition on May 11, 1990, performed a Safety Review and Evaluation on May 31, 1990, and completed pipe repairs on September 12, 1990.

Utilizing NSAC-125, "Guideline for 10 CFR 50.59 Safety Evaluations," that states, in part that, "Changes include previously undiscovered conditions that deviate from those described in the SAR if the licensee proposes to operate permanently in this configuration," the licensee determined that a 50.59 safety evaluation was not required. While current draft guidance for inspecting 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation programs will require that a 50.59 review be conducted for "temporary changes" to conditions described in the SAR, this guidance was not in effect at the time of this particular event. Once formally endorsed by the NRC, the guidance of NSAC-125, including supplements, should be followed during further inspections of the licensee's 50.59 safety evaluation program.

Therefore, considering the low safety significance of this event, and since supplementary guidance to NSAC-125 was not issued at the time of the event, we believe it is not worthwhile to pursue this issue any further. This concludes our review of TAC No. M80324.

original signed by

John A. Zwolinski, Assistant Director  
for Region III Reactors  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V

cc: C. Hohl, RI  
L. Reyes, RII  
A. Davis, RIII  
A. Beach, RIV  
K. Perkins, RV

500036

DISTRIBUTION

Docket File  
JZwolinski  
JHannon  
PKreutzer  
RPaul, RIII

BBoger  
LCunningham  
JHopkins  
LGreger, RIII  
JJackiw, RIII

\*See Previous Concurrence

LA:PDIII

PKreutzer

PM:PDIII-3

JHopkins:sw  
7/7/92

\*PRPD:HRR

LCunningham  
7/9/92

D:PDIII

JHannon

7/22/92

ADIII

JZwolinski

7/22/92

9208030044 920724  
EF ADOCK 03000346

XA

QF

111