

November 9, 1998

Mr. John K. Wood  
Vice President - Nuclear  
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station  
Centerior Service Company  
5501 North State Route 2  
Oak Harbor, OH 43449

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-346/98301(OL))

Dear Mr. Wood:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated October 21, 1998, in response to our letter dated September 23, 1998, transmitting a Notice of Violation associated with examination development at the Davis Besse Nuclear Power Plant. The effectiveness of your corrective actions will be reviewed following submittal of your root cause investigation results.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by Steven A. Reynolds (for)

John A. Grobe, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-346  
License No.: NPF-3

Enclosure: Ltr dtd 10/21/98 O. Kingsley  
Davis Besse to USNRC

See Attached Distribution

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\DRS\DAV98301.WPD

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy

OFFICE	RIII	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIII	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIII	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIII	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NAME	Bieby <i>[Signature]</i>		Leach <i>[Signature]</i>		Kozak <i>[Signature]</i>		Grobe <i>[Signature]</i>	
DATE	11/6/98		11/6/98		11/6/98		11/9/98	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

9811130144 981109  
PDR ADOCK 05000346  
V PDR

cc w/o encl: J. Stetz, Senior Vice President - Nuclear  
J. Lash, Plant Manager  
J. Freels, Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
M. O'Reilly, FirstEnergy  
State Liaison Officer, State of Ohio

cc w/encl: R. Owen, Ohio Department of Health  
C. Glazer, State of Ohio Public  
Utilities Commission

Distribution:

RPC (E-Mail)  
Project Mgr., NRR w/o encl  
J. Caldwell, RIII w/o encl  
C. Pederson, RIII w/o encl  
B. Clayton, RIII w/o encl  
SRI Davis-Besse w/o encl  
DRP w/o encl  
TSS w/o encl  
DRS (2) w/o encl  
RIII PRR w/o encl  
PUBLIC IE-42 w/o encl  
Docket File w/o encl  
GREENS  
IEO (E-Mail)  
DOCDESK (E-Mail)  
M. Bies, RIII w/o encl

130049

John K. Wood  
Vice President - Nuclear

419-249-2300  
Fax: 419-321-8337

Docket Number 50-346

License Number NPF-3

Serial Number 1-1175

October 21, 1998

Mr. J. L. Caldwell  
Acting Regional Administrator, Region III  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
801 Warrenville Road  
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351

Subject: Response to Operator Licensing Examination Report 50-346/98301(OL)

Dear Mr. Caldwell:

The Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station has received Operator Licensing Examination Report 50-346/98301 (OL), Toledo Edison Log Number 1-4010. This report documented the results of the Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) examinations administered the week of August 3, 1998, and the concurrent operations inspection. This SRO written examination was prepared and administered in accordance with the guidelines provided in NUREG-1021, Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors, Interim Revision 8, dated January, 1997.

After the examination was administered, seven examination questions were required to be deleted or answers changed as a result of post written examination comments. This exceeded the five percent criteria stated in Section ES-501 C.2.c of NUREG-1021. A Potential Condition Adverse to Quality Report (PCAQR) was initiated on August 10, 1998, to investigate the cause of this occurrence and determine corrective actions to improve future operator license written examinations.

The root cause investigation is in progress at this time and is considering the exam preparation process. This SRO examination was the first prepared in accordance with the guidelines of NUREG-1021, Interim Revision 8. Preparation of this examination was potentially impacted by a change of personnel responsible for reviewing and approving the examination. As documented

OCT 23 1998

9810280150 2pp



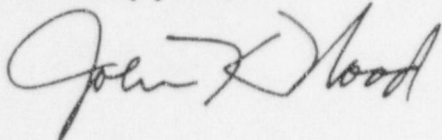
Docket Number 50-346  
License Number NPF-3  
Serial 1-1175  
Page 2

in this examination report, a significant number of examination questions, approximately 50 percent, had to be changed after the initial review. Due to this large number of required changes, the examination validation process may have been impacted. This root cause investigation is continuing and will be completed by February 23, 1999. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will then be provided the root cause and corrective actions.

Requalification examinations are currently being administered to licensed operators. Due to the differences in the examination development and review process for the requalification exam versus the SRO exam just completed, the type of deficiencies encountered in the initial SRO exam should not occur.

Should you have additional questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. James L. Freels, Manager - Regulatory Affairs, at (419) 321-8466.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John F. Wood".

DLM/dlc

cc: A. G. Hansen, NRC Project Manager  
S. J. Campbell, DB-1 Senior Resident Inspector  
USNRC Document Control Desk  
Utility Radiological Safety Board