



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
301 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

August 14, 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: NRC TEAM INSPECTION REPORT 50-346/98012(DRP)

Dear Mr. Wood:

On June 29, 1998, the NRC completed a team inspection which was initiated on June 24, shortly after the NRC was notified a tornado had touched down at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The team followed the direction in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0350, "Staff Guidance for Restart Approval," which provides guidelines for approving restart of a nuclear power plant after an involuntary shutdown as a result of a significant event. A restart panel was formed, which included members from NRC Region III and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, a restart plan was generated, and a list of issues needing resolution prior to plant restart was developed. The NRC did not issue an Order or a Confirmatory Action Letter concerning restart of the plant.

The conduct of activities during the event was characterized by conservative operator actions. The control room operators executed their responsibilities in a professional, business-like manner. The operators anticipated the loss of offsite electrical power and ensured that the equipment needed to place the reactor in a safe condition was operating. The crew's response to the event indicated that they were well-trained for such an event. In addition, the effectiveness and teamwork displayed by your emergency response organization indicated that they were also well-prepared for the event.

A thorough review of the damage caused by the tornado and equipment problems was conducted by your staff. The identified problems were properly prioritized and a methodical effort ensued to resolve the issues. At no time did it appear that workers were schedule-driven, and plant management continuously emphasized that proper resolution of the identified issues was needed prior to considering restart of the unit. All restart issues that were identified by your staff and the NRC were properly addressed prior to plant management's decision to proceed with unit restart.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original signed by M. Dapas

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-346

License No.: NPF-3

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-346/98012(DRP)

cc w/encl: J. Stetz, Senior Vice President - Nuclear
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