NRC Finalizes White Finding at Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has notified Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp. of its final determination that an inspection finding involving the failure to select a suitable replacement part for an emergency diesel generator at the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant has low-to-moderate safety significance.

The issue was identified during a special inspection conducted July 26 – Oct. 7, 2021. While reviewing the Sept. 4, 2020, failure of a diesel generator to start during testing, NRC inspectors determined that the company did not ensure the installation of suitable diesel generator speed switches between Oct. 4, 2019, and July 26, 2021. NRC inspectors have verified that Energy Harbor took actions to ensure safe operations.

The NRC had placed Davis-Besse in the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC’s performance Action Matrix, bringing increased NRC oversight, in the third quarter of 2021. The move was due to a previous greater-than-green finding.

Davis-Besse will remain in the Regulatory Response column and under increased oversight until the NRC conducts independent reviews to verify that Energy Harbor has fully understood the causes for both findings and has taken sufficient action to prevent recurrence.

The single-unit plant, operated by Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp., is located in Oak Harbor, Ohio, approximately 21 miles east-southeast of Toledo.