

November 10, 1999

Mr. Guy G. Campbell
Vice President - Nuclear
First Energy Nuclear Operating Company
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
5501 North State Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

SUBJECT: OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION REPORT 50-346/99301(OL)

Dear Mr. Campbell:

On September 20, 1999, the NRC completed initial operator licensing examinations at your Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The operating examination was administered September 13 through 17, 1999, and the written examination was administered on September 20, 1999. During the license examination, the examiners observed control room operations. The enclosed report presents the results of the examination and the concurrent operations inspection.

At the conclusion of the examination process, preliminary findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report during an exit meeting on September 28, 1999. The license applicants' performance evaluations were finalized and members of your staff were informed of the examination results on October 27, 1999.

Operating and written examinations were administered to six license applicants. All six applicants were administered Reactor Operator (RO) examinations. All six RO applicants passed all sections of the examinations and were issued RO licenses to operate your Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. Your training staff performed well during the review, validation, and administration of the examinations. Licensed operators involved in the validation and administration of the examination also performed well.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that a violation of NRC requirements occurred. Specifically, a lack of understanding and sensitivity on the part of some plant staff regarding examination security measures resulted in two instances in which examination integrity was adversely affected. However, this violation is being treated as a Non-Cited Violation (NCV), consistent with Appendix C of the Enforcement Policy. The NCV is described in the subject inspection report. If you contest the violation or severity level of the NCV, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington DC 20555-0001, with copies to the Regional Administrator, Region III, and the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

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

Sincerely,
Original Signed By David E. Hills

David E. Hills, Chief
Operations Branch

Docket Nos. 50-346
License Nos. NPF-3

- Enclosures:
1. Operator Licensing Examination Report 50-346/99301(OL)
 2. Simulation Facility Report
 3. Examination and Answer Key (RO & SRO)

cc w/encs 1 & 2:

- 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
- R. Owen, Ohio Department of Health
- C. Glazer, Chairman, Ohio Public
Utilities Commission

cc w/encs 1, 2 & 3: S. Garchow, Manager, Nuclear Training

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