

Duke Energy Corporation
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Florida Power Corporation

Oconee 1, 2, 3
ANO-1
Crystal River



GPU Nuclear, Inc.
Toledo Edison Company
Framatome Technologies, Inc

TMI-1
Davis-Besse

Working Together to Economically Provide Reliable and Safe Electrical Power

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November 29, 1999
OG-1778

Project No. 693

Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject Utilization of Reactor Vessel Surveillance Capsule L2 at Davis-Besse

Reference: 1) Topical Report BAW-1543A, Revision 4, Supplement 3, "Master Integrated Reactor Vessel Surveillance Program"
2) Telecon Between the NRC and Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station (DBNPS) Staff - November 3, 1999

Gentlemen:

We wish to advise that the B&W Owners Group Reactor Vessel Working Group (B&WOG RVWG) endorses the use of the Reactor Surveillance Capsule L2 as a dummy capsule at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station (DBNPS).

Capsule L2, as outlined in the latest NRC approved revision of the Master Integrated Reactor Vessel Surveillance Program (MIRVP) (Reference 1), was originally intended to provide future input data to the B&WOG RVWG to assess the annealing response of the reactor vessels. As outlined to the NRC in a November 3, 1999 conference call (Reference 2), the B&WOG RVWG has determined that annealing of the reactor vessels will not be required. Therefore, the function of the capsule L2 is no longer needed and it is considered to be a spare.

The current status of the MIRVP is such that all but one capsule will be removed from DBNPS during the upcoming outage. The holder tubes must either be empty or contain two capsules. Therefore a dummy capsule must accompany the one capsule which will remain in place.

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November 29, 1999

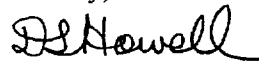
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The original B&WOG plan was to ship a previously irradiated capsule to the DBNPS site for use as the dummy capsule. Now that capsule L2 is considered a spare, it can be used for this purpose. This will negate the need to ship a previously irradiated capsule to DBNPS and will also eliminate the need to ship capsule L2 offsite for storage. This will reduce the associated radiation doses by reducing the amount of radioactive material to be handled.

In the next revision of Reference 1, capsule L2 will be shown as the dummy capsule at DBNPS. It is the B&WOG's understanding that the NRC concurs with the use of the L2 capsule as a dummy and therefore no further action or response is required.

Sincerely,



Don L Howell
Project Manager
B&W Owners Group Services

DLH/mcl

c: S N Bailey - NRC/NRR, B&WOG Project Manager
B&WOG Reactor Vessel Working Group