



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

November 24, 1999

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

SUBJECT: DAVIS-BESSE INSPECTION REPORT 50-346/99011(DRP)

Dear Mr. Campbell:

On October 29, 1999, the NRC completed an inspection at your Davis-Besse site. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

Overall, your facility continued to be operated in a conservative and conscientious manner. For example, an oil leak from the main generator bushing was thoroughly assessed and subsequently fixed to eliminate the potential for the development of a hydrogen leak. Also, corrective actions implemented in response to an October 1998 component cooling water pump trip were effective to mitigate the effects of a similar pump trip which occurred during this inspection period. However, human performance errors in operations and maintenance occurred during this period. In one instance, the failure to follow procedural requirements for switch positioning by a maintenance worker during a nuclear instrumentation test could have had an impact on reactivity, and on two occasions, operators failed to recognize that conditions were met for entry into Technical Specification Limiting Conditions for Operations. In addition, less than thorough communications between chemistry and operations personnel concerning plant conditions resulted in unnecessary distractions to plant operators on several occasions.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that two violations of NRC requirements occurred. These violations are being treated as Non-Cited Violations (NCVs), consistent with Appendix C of the Enforcement Policy. These NCVs are described in the subject inspection report. If you contest the violations or the severity level of these NCVs, 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.

PDR A D O C K

G. Campbell

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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 enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

/s/ T. J. Kozak

Thomas J. Kozak, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 4

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

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-346/99011(DRP)

cc w/encl: J. Stetz, President - FENOC
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G. Campbell

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