

RIC 2003

OPERATING EXPERIENCE ASSESSMENTS

SESSION T-9

**INSIGHTS FROM DAVIS-BESSE
LESSONS-LEARNED TASK FORCE**

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INSIGHTS FROM DAVIS-BESSE LESSONS-LEARNED TASK FORCE

BACKGROUND

- TASK FORCE CONDUCTED ACTIVITIES FROM MAY-OCTOBER, 2002
- CHARTERED TO REVIEW:
 - Reactor Oversight Process Issues
 - Regulatory Processes
 - Research Activities
 - International Practices
 - Generic Issues Program
- REPORT COMPLETED SEPTEMBER 30, 2002

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- WHY WAS THE DEGRADATION NOT PREVENTED?

- A PRIMARY CONTRIBUTING CAUSE WAS:
 - THE NRC, THE DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION AND THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY FAILED TO ADEQUATELY REVIEW, ASSESS AND FOLLOW-UP ON RELEVANT OPERATING EXPERIENCE

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- SIGNIFICANT OPERATING EXPERIENCE INVOLVING STRESS CORROSION CRACKING AND BORIC ACID LEAKAGE AND CORROSION
- GENERIC COMMUNICATION PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
- GENERIC ISSUES PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
- OPERATING EXPERIENCE INVOLVING FOREIGN NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS
- ASSESSMENT AND VERIFICATION OF INDUSTRY TECHNICAL INFORMATION
- NRC OPERATING EXPERIENCE REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT

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KEY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Evaluate the agency's capability to retain operating experience information and to perform longer-term operating experience reviews
- Evaluate thresholds, criteria and guidance for initiating generic communications
- Evaluate opportunities for additional effectiveness and efficiency gains stemming from changes in organizational alignments (e.g., a centralized NRC operational experience "clearing house")
- Evaluate effectiveness of the Generic Issues program
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the internal dissemination of operating experience to end users
- Enhance effectiveness of the processes for the collection, review, assessment, storage, retrieval and dissemination of foreign operating experience