

February 19, 2003

EA-02-117  
EA-02-257

Mr. Lew W. Myers  
Chief Operating Officer  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company  
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station  
5501 North State Route 2  
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

SUBJECT: DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION  
FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION FOR TWO WHITE FINDINGS AND  
NOTICE OF VIOLATION, NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-346/02-16(DRS)

Dear Mr. Myers:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with the final results of our significance determination of the two preliminary White findings identified in the subject inspection report. The two findings were associated with radiological controls related to steam generator nozzle dam installation conducted on February 20, 2002. The findings involved failures by your staff to: (1) conduct an adequate evaluation of the radiological hazards in order to characterize the radiological work conditions; and (2) take timely and suitable measurements to adequately monitor the occupational intake of these materials by workers during and following the steam generator nozzle dam installation. The inspection findings were assessed using the significance determination process and were preliminarily characterized as White, (i.e., a finding with low to moderate increased importance to safety, which may require additional NRC inspections).

In a telephone conversation with Mr. T. Kozak of NRC, Region III, on January 21, 2003, Mr. P. McCloskey of your staff indicated that FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company agreed with the preliminarily characterization of the risk significance of the findings and declined the opportunity to provide additional information or discuss the issue in a regulatory conference.

After considering the information developed during the inspection, the NRC has concluded that the inspection findings are appropriately characterized as White (i.e., an issue with low to moderate increased importance to safety, which may require additional NRC inspections).

You have 30 calendar days from the date of this letter to appeal the staff's determination of significance for the identified White findings. Such appeals will be considered to have merit only if they meet the criteria given in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0609, Attachment 2.