



FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company

Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
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Vice President - Nuclear

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Docket Number 50-346

License Number NPF-3

Serial Number 2775

March 25, 2002

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Subject: Seven-Day Response to NRC Bulletin 2002-01, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Degradation and Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Integrity"

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) requests that the response to NRC Bulletin 2002-01, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Degradation and Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Integrity," for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1 (DBNPS) be delayed until prior to restart of the DBNPS from its current outage. The DBNPS, being the subject of the NRC Bulletin, is in the process of conducting a comprehensive investigation, in concert with industry experts, of the Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) head degradation issues, including root cause, extent of condition, and corrective actions. The DBNPS is also involved in the investigation that is now being conducted by the NRC Augmented Inspection Team. Because the investigations at the DBNPS are ongoing and evolving, the response to the NRC Bulletin at this time would be incomplete. Following the completion of these investigations a complete and comprehensive response will be provided to the NRC prior to restart.

The basis for the acceptability of this proposal is the commitments set forth in FENOC's letter to Mr. J. E. Dyer, Regional Administrator, Region III, Serial Number 1-1265 dated March 12, 2002 and clarified in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) addressed to Mr. Howard Bergendahl, Vice President – Nuclear, Davis-Besse, dated March 13, 2002. These include completion of the following actions to obtain NRC restart approval: a determination of the root cause of the degradation around the RPV head penetrations, evaluation and dispositioning of the extent of condition, and corrective actions to prevent recurrence.

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If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Mr. David H. Lockwood, Manager – Regulatory Affairs, at (419) 321-8450.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. H. Lockwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Enclosure and Attachment

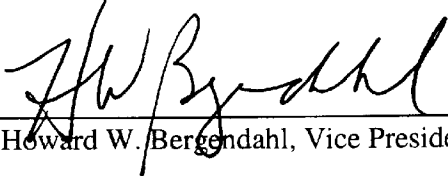
cc: J. E. Dyer, Regional Administrator, NRC Region III
S. P. Sands, DB-1 NRC/NRR Project Manager
C. S. Thomas, DB-1 Senior Resident Inspector
Utility Radiological Safety Board

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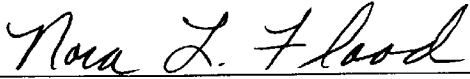
SEVEN DAY
RESPONSE TO
NRC BULLETIN 2002-01
FOR
DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION
UNIT NUMBER 1

This letter is submitted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) and contains the Seven Day Response to NRC Bulletin 2002-01, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Degradation and Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Integrity" for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit Number 1.

I, Howard W. Bergendahl, state that (1) I am Vice President – Nuclear of the FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company, (2) I am duly authorized to execute and file this certification on behalf of the Toledo Edison Company and The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and (3) the statements set forth herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

By: 
Howard W. Bergendahl, Vice President – Nuclear

Affirmed and subscribed before me this 25th day of March, 2002.


Notary Public, State of Ohio – Nora L. Flood
My Commission expires September 4, 2002.

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Commitment List
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COMMITMENT LIST

The following list identifies those actions committed to by the Davis-Nuclear Power Station in this document. Any other actions discussed in the submittal represent intended or planned actions by Davis-Besse. They are described only for information and are not regulatory commitments. Please notify the Manager – Regulatory Affairs (419-321-8450) at Davis-Besse of any questions regarding this document or associated regulatory commitments.

COMMITMENTS

Submit response to NRC Bulletin 2002-01 prior to restart from the current outage.

DUE DATE

N/A