



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

March 4, 2015

Mr. Raymond Lieb
Site Vice President
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Co.
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
5501 N. State Rte. 2, Mail Stop A-DB-3080
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER
STATION (REPORT 050000346/2014001)**

Dear Mr. Lieb:

On February 12, 2015, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its end-of-cycle performance review of Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because of one or more greater-than-green Security Cornerstone inputs as described in Inspection Report 05000346/2014406 sent to you on September 18, 2014. The NRC transmitted the final significance of the inspection inputs in Inspection Report 05000346/2014407 sent to you on October 22, 2014. The NRC advised you in the Assessment Follow-Up Letter, dated October 24, 2014 (ADAMS Accession Number ML14300A033), that the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station's performance was determined to be in the Regulatory Response Column beginning the third quarter of 2014. For the first and second quarters of 2014, Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station was in the Licensee Response Column of the Action Matrix.

Therefore, in addition to ROP baseline inspections, the NRC plans to conduct a supplemental inspection to provide assurance that the root causes and contributing causes of risk-significant performance issues are understood, to provide assurance that the extent of condition and extent of cause are identified, and to provide assurance that your corrective actions are sufficient to address the root and contributing causes and prevent recurrence. In the Assessment Follow-Up Letter we requested that your staff provide notification of your readiness for the NRC to conduct this supplemental inspection. To date, your staff has not provided that notification.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2016. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

During the last half of 2014, the NRC completed a Modifications/50.59 Inspection and initiated a Shield Building Problem Identification and Resolution (PI&R) inspection sample focused on the shield building laminar crack growth cause evaluation. The NRC also continues to evaluate a previous unresolved item regarding the acceptability of the 10 CFR 50.59 evaluation that concluded that NRC approval was not required to accept the laminar cracking. The NRC plans to complete both shield building activities during the first half of 2015. In addition, the NRC will be conducting a Biennial PI&R inspection (March, April), and an Initial Operator Licensee examination (June).

Additionally, an NRC audit of licensee efforts towards compliance with Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," and Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation" is ongoing for various sites. The audit includes an onsite visit for the NRC staff to evaluate mitigating strategies as described in the licensee submittals, and to receive and review information relative to associated open items. This onsite audit will occur prior the site achieving compliance with the Orders and the audit will aid NRC staff in developing a final Safety Evaluation for the site. The audit at your site has not been scheduled. A site-specific audit plan for the visit will be provided in advance to allow sufficient time for preparations.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

R. Lieb

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Please contact Mr. Jamnes L. Cameron, Branch Chief, Division of Reactor Projects at 630-829-9833 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Anne T. Boland, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure: Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
Inspection Plan/Activity Plan

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-3-

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Davis-Besse
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2015 - 06/30/2016

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			71152B - BIENNIAL PI&R INSPECTION		6
1	03/23/2015	04/10/2015	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
			BI EPX - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION / PI VERIFICATION		2
1	05/04/2015	05/08/2015	IP 7111407	Exercise Evaluation - Hostile Action (HA) Event	
1	05/04/2015	05/08/2015	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		2
1	04/27/2015	05/01/2015	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	04/27/2015	05/01/2015	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	05/04/2015	05/08/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	05/04/2015	05/08/2015	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			OL PREP - INIT EXAM/JUNE 2015		2
1	05/18/2015	05/22/2015	W90327	OL - INITIAL EXAM - 2015 JUN-JUL - DAVIS-BESSE	
			OL EXAM - INIT EXAM/JUNE 2015		3
1	06/15/2015	06/26/2015	W90327	OL - INITIAL EXAM - 2015 JUN-JUL - DAVIS-BESSE	
			STRIKE - STRIKE PREPARATIONS		1
1	10/01/2015	11/01/2015	IP 92709	Licensee Strike Contingency Plans	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	02/08/2016	02/12/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
			ENG BI - INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	02/01/2016	02/26/2016	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	04/25/2016	04/29/2016	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.