

July 17, 2003

CAL No. 3-02-001D

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

SUBJECT: UPDATE OF CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER 3-02-001C STATUS FOR
DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION

Dear Mr. Myers:

On March 13, 2002, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Confirmatory Action Letter No. 3-02-001 regarding the reactor pressure vessel head degradation at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. On May 15, 2002, the NRC revised the Confirmatory Action Letter, to address the option of replacing the reactor pressure vessel head. The Confirmatory Action Letter documented six sets of commitments you intended to take prior to restart of Davis-Besse.

On December 24, 2002, the NRC provided a letter to you, documenting our understanding of the current status of each of the items. On January 21, 2003, the NRC provided a letter to you to clarify the status of Confirmatory Action letter Issue No. 1. As discussed between Mr. R. Fast of your staff and Mr. W. Ruland, Vice Chairman of the Davis-Besse Oversight Panel on July 16, 2003, the enclosure to this letter revises the status of CAL Issue No. 1, including our understanding of your planned actions regarding the quarantined material from the damaged reactor vessel head. Notify me if your understanding differs from that described in the enclosure.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

L. Myers

-2-

If you have any questions regarding the information in this letter, please contact me at 630-829-9657, or John Grobe at 630-829-9637.

Sincerely,

/RA/

J. E. Dyer
Regional Administrator

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

Enclosure: Confirmatory Action Letter Issue No. 1 Status

cc w/encl: The Honorable Dennis Kucinich
B. Saunders, President - FENOC
Plant Manager
Manager - Regulatory Affairs
M. O'Reilly, FirstEnergy
Ohio State Liaison Officer
R. Owen, Ohio Department of Health
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
President, Board of County Commissioners
Of Lucas County
Steve Arndt, President, Ottawa County Board of Commissioners
D. Lochbaum, Union Of Concerned Scientists

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Confirmatory Action Letter Issue No. 1 Status

"Quarantine components or other material from the RPV [Reactor Pressure Vessel] head and CRDM [Control Rod Drive Mechanism] nozzle penetrations that are deemed necessary to fully address the root cause of the occurrence of degradation of the leaking penetrations. Prior to implementation, plans for further inspection and data gathering to support determination of the root cause will be provided to the NRC for review and comment."

Status

Applicable components and material have been adequately quarantined and plans for inspection and data gathering to support root cause determination have been provided to the NRC for review and comment. Following discussions between Mr. R. Schrauder of your staff and Mr. W. Dean, Vice Chairman of the Davis-Besse Oversight Panel on November 1, 2002, it is our understanding that the following additional specimens will be removed from the damaged reactor vessel head:

- 1) Approximately 8 inches diameter of head material unaffected by heat around CRDM penetration Nozzles 2 and 46,
- 2) Nozzle base material from any two of Nozzles 1, 2, 4, or 5 (heat no. M3935),
- 3) Nozzle base material from Nozzle 47 (heat no. C2649-1), and
- 4) Nozzle base material from any two of Nozzles 7, 12, 16, 20, 22-25, 27-29, 38-44, 48-55, 57, 64, 68, or 69 (heat no. C2649-1).

The nozzle base material will be cut off both at the head and below the bimetallic weld, resulting in pieces about 7 to 8 inches long. The point of contact for the shipments of these specimens to Battelle Northwest Laboratory (BNL) is Mr. William Cullen, Jr., Senior Materials Engineer, Materials Engineering Branch, Office of Research (RES). Mr. Cullen can be reached at 301-415-6754. Following removal of the material described above, and its shipment to BNL, the NRC releases the head from quarantine. With respect to the specimen materials sent to Lynchburg, Virginia, the quarantine is lifted because the Phase 3 test plan for material is complete. The specimen material sent to Canada is now considered released from quarantine.