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PUBLIC MEETING

Between U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 0350 Panel  
and FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company

Meeting held on Tuesday, August 12, 2003, at  
7:00 p.m. at Oak Harbor High School, Oak Harbor,  
Ohio, taken by me, Marlene S. Lewis, Stenotype  
Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of  
Ohio.

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- PANEL MEMBERS PRESENT:
- U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
  - John (Jack) Grobe, Chairman for 0350 Panel  
Davis-Besse facility
  - Christine Lipa, Branch Chief, NRC
  - William Ruland, Vice Chairman, MC 0350 Panel
  - Scott Thomas, Senior Resident Inspector

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1 MS. LIPA: Okay, we're just about  
2 ready to get started. Okay, well, good evening,  
3 everyone. This is the public meeting for the NRC  
4 Davis-Besse Oversight Panel, and what we want to do  
5 is recap what we discussed today during the business  
6 meeting that we held from two until about six, I  
7 think, summarize that meeting for you, and then open  
8 it up for public comments and questions from  
9 everybody, so -- there was a handout, and I  
10 understand we ran out of the handout, but really the  
11 agenda, if I can find it here, is simply to discuss  
12 what we discovered in the afternoon session and  
13 really just to inform anybody who's interested in the  
14 NRC activities and answer any questions that you  
15 have, so we'll go ahead and introduce some folks up  
16 here first, and then we'll go into a summary. Scott  
17 Thomas is the Senior Resident at the Davis-Besse  
18 facility.

19 MR. THOMAS: (Indicating).

20 MS. LIPA: Bill Ruland is from  
21 the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. He's the  
22 Vice Chairman of the panel.

23 Jack Grobe is the Chairman of the Panel.

24 MR. GROBE: (Indicating).

25 MS. LIPA: He's the Senior

1 Manager in the Region III office.

2 I forgot to introduce myself. I'm Christine

3 Lipa. I'm a Branch Chief in the Region.

4 We also have Jack Rutkowski, the Resident

5 Inspector at the Davis-Besse facility.

6 MR. RUTKOWSKI: (Indicating).

7 MS. LIPA: Jon Hopkins --

8 MR. HOPKINS: (Indicating).

9 MS. LIPA: -- the NRR Project

10 Manager. He's located out of headquarters.

11 We have Roland Lickus. He's our State and

12 Government Affairs person.

13 MR. LICKUS: (Indicating).

14 MS. LIPA: And then Jan

15 Strasma --

16 MR. STRASMA: (Indicating).

17 MS. LIPA: -- is Public Affairs.

18 Nancy Keller was in the foyer handing out the

19 handouts, and she's the site secretary at the

20 Davis-Besse resident office. I think that's about it

21 for NRC, so I'll go ahead and turn it over to Scott

22 Thomas and he'll summarize what we covered in the

23 2:00 meeting.

24 MR. THOMAS: Okay, briefly the

25 licensee updated their progress toward resolution of

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1 the high pressure injection pump design issue.  
2 These actions included the completion of the testing  
3 for the internal spring and bearing design, the  
4 replacement of the existing hydrostatic bearing with  
5 a bearing of a more robust design and hard face vital  
6 internal components to improve the pump performance  
7 and their adverse conditions.

8 The licensees also updated the status of  
9 their ETAP, which stands for Electrical Transient  
10 Analysis Program. This evaluation is basically an  
11 evaluation of how their electrical distribution  
12 system is operating.

13 They talked about plant readiness for Modes 3  
14 and 4 and the operation start-up plan. This  
15 discussion focused on how they will successfully  
16 conduct required post-maintenance and modifications  
17 testing and how they will conduct the plant start-up  
18 safely and event-free.

19 The licensee also outlined their restart  
20 milestones through the normal operating pressure  
21 test. These included transitioning from the Return  
22 to Service Plan to normal -- a normal type operating  
23 status, install high pressure injection pumps,  
24 complete the remaining work required to support  
25 transitioning to Mode 3 and 4, and to perform the

1 seven day Full Pressure Test and evaluate the  
2 results.

3 The licensee discussed the results of their  
4 recent safety culture assessment and readiness  
5 evaluation and focus for Modes 3 and 4. The results  
6 in the three major areas were white in the Individual  
7 Commitment Area; yellow for Plant Management  
8 Commitment Area; and white for the Policy or  
9 Corporate Level Area -- excuse me, Commitment area.

10 Lastly, the quality assessment organization  
11 updated their efforts in the following areas of  
12 station readiness, quality assessment, organizational  
13 readiness and plant oversight activities.

14 And the meeting conclude with a brief video  
15 of things that the licensee has accomplished to date,  
16 so --

17 MS. LIPA: Okay, thanks, Scott.  
18 I wanted to cover that there is a few handouts that  
19 were in the foyer when you came in. The thickest  
20 packet was the Davis-Besse licensee handout that they  
21 used, so that will give you a sense of some more  
22 detail of some of the things we covered.

23 Also we have this thing called NRC Update,  
24 and that's a monthly newsletter that the NRC has been  
25 putting out for about a year now, and in this packet

1 it has background information, current information.  
2 It also has a way you can reach our Public Affairs  
3 folks, phone number, web site information, E-mail  
4 information, and then on Page 4 is the Restart  
5 Checklist, and we spent a lot of time at the public  
6 meeting at 2:00 today going over the Restart  
7 Checklist, the status of the items that are open and  
8 what the NRC has planned to review those areas before  
9 we make a decision on closing these Restart Checklist  
10 items.

11 Also in the foyer was a public meeting  
12 feedback form that you can use to provide information  
13 to us on how this meeting went. Of course, you can  
14 always provide your comments to us at the podium or  
15 come up and talk to us after if anybody has any  
16 comments or questions, so that's it for a summary of  
17 what we did during the afternoon meeting, and what  
18 I'd like to do now is open it up for public comments  
19 and questions. What we like to do is have people  
20 come up to the podium, sign your name on the sheet,  
21 speak your name for the transcriber and ask your  
22 question. I'd like to point out this meeting is  
23 being transcribed by Marlene, and all these meetings  
24 have been transcribed and those transcriptions are  
25 available on our web site, so what we'd like to do is

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1 start with local members of the public first or  
2 public officials and -- comments or questions, limit  
3 your time to five minutes, please, and does anybody  
4 have a comment or question for us?

5 MR. ATWATER: See if this works --  
6 okay, my name is Alan Atwater, and I'm not part of  
7 any organization, I'm just a local resident. I am  
8 24 years young. I work as a machine operator and a  
9 part-time farmer in Oak Harbor. I have been a  
10 resident since 1979. I would like to thank the NRC  
11 for getting involved with the corrosion of  
12 Davis-Besse's reactor vessel head.

13 Also, I want to thank and commend the  
14 workers, staff and contractors at the Davis-Besse  
15 facility by discovering this problem and correcting  
16 it. By no means was this an expectable condition;  
17 however, I am aware that this was within the safety  
18 perimeters of the facility.

19 I hope that the Ohio Citizen Group will  
20 totally understand that nuclear power is the greatest  
21 thing to come forth.

22 I hope everyone that is against my backyard  
23 monument had a cold burner, fuel burner, wood burner,  
24 refinery or lack of electricity in their backyard.

25 I thank FirstEnergy for the use of the 0%

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1 emissions fuel and for the largest area of marshland  
2 in Ottawa County that you preserve.

3 I also wanted to state that Amy Ryder only  
4 received 450 letters from Northern Ohio residents  
5 while asking for the plant to be permanently shut  
6 down. How many of these 450 people are my neighbors  
7 living within 10 miles of the plant? Who sponsors  
8 the Ohio Citizens Group? Do my taxes pay for anyone  
9 working for this committee or organization? I  
10 believe that 800 people work at Davis-Besse. Do we  
11 want to lose 800 more jobs in Ottawa County? This  
12 committee should support the NRC and FirstEnergy on  
13 being confident that Davis-Besse will continue to  
14 operate like it did since 1979 -- or '76. Thank  
15 you.

16 MS. LIPA: Thank you for your  
17 comments, Alan.

18 THEREUPON, the audience applauded.

19 MS. LIPA: I think you asked a  
20 couple questions about Ohio Citizens Action Network.  
21 I don't really know too much about them as far as tax  
22 dollars and whatnot, but we have received a lot of  
23 letters, more than the 400, we received even more and  
24 we do plan to respond to those letters.

25 Does anybody else have any comments or

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1 questions for us?

2 MR. GATTER: Hi, my name is Shane  
3 Gatter. I'm a resident of Oak Harbor and an  
4 employee of Davis-Besse. I work in the Corrective  
5 Action Program.

6 As a Davis-Besse employee and a resident of  
7 Oak Harbor, I have attended many of these meetings  
8 and last month I realize my neighbors do not know  
9 what's happening at Davis-Besse; therefore, they must  
10 rely on the media and which from the perspective of  
11 someone who does know what's happening on the inside  
12 is less than desirable.

13 Davis-Besse tries to inform the public what's  
14 happened once a month at these meetings, but is  
15 usually taken as defensive and not informative. I'm  
16 also to blame. I have not approached my neighbors  
17 to relay information and to thank them for their  
18 support. Also what my neighbors don't understand  
19 and what was apparent in last month's questions and  
20 comments is the safety culture work environment at  
21 Davis-Besse. I only have been at Davis-Besse for  
22 the past 11 months, so I cannot speak to what it was  
23 like prior to the extended outage, but I have seen a  
24 changing of environment since my stay here.

25 I would also like to take this time to be

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1       informative and be the eyes for my neighbors. When  
2       I look at safety conscious work environment, I first  
3       see the definition -- an environment in which  
4       personnel are encouraged to identify, are confident  
5       that problems will be effectively evaluated and  
6       corrected, and are protected from any form of  
7       retaliation as a result of having raised issues, a  
8       safety culture goes hand in hand. The assembly of  
9       characteristics and attributes in organizations and  
10      individuals which established an overriding priority  
11      to nuclear safety activities and ensures the issues  
12      receive the attention warranted by their  
13      significance.

14           Now, that -- that can be a mouthful and when  
15      I first seen this, I thought, why are they telling me  
16      this, shouldn't it -- doesn't everyone already live  
17      by these definitions? If they did, we probably  
18      wouldn't be here today talking about it. This is  
19      not a test and we need -- we do not need to remember  
20      this verbatim, this is the lifestyle we should all  
21      live by. I have seen progress with the  
22      establishment of a safety conscious work environment  
23      colors and the four C's meetings and just by the  
24      employees who live by that definition is above.  
25      Again, this is something that has to be witnessed and

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1 not read in the paper. From what I could gather  
2 there were two ways of reporting issues prior to the  
3 13th, the refueling outage. One was through the  
4 corrective -- condition report process and the other  
5 was directly reporting to the NRC. Now, we have the  
6 four pillars and graphics are hanging around the  
7 plant as a constant reminder to employees.

8 The four pillars are report the issue to  
9 management without fear of retaliation; the condition  
10 report process; the employee concerns program; and  
11 the safety conscious work environment review team.  
12 As an employee, an employee is allowed -- I'm sorry,  
13 encouraged using any and all of these at any time.  
14 The employee concerns program even loves  
15 confidentiality. To re-enforce the use of the  
16 condition report process, employees are recognized  
17 for addressing issues through a good catch program.  
18 This program is currently evolving to include  
19 employee of the month and many other related programs  
20 that identify issues around the plant. This process  
21 will be influenced by all levels of management and  
22 all stages of the condition report process. Along  
23 with the safety conscious work environment, Mr. Myers  
24 and -- Mr. Myers has established the four C's  
25 meetings, compliments, communications, concerns and

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1 changes. Two meetings with a small group of  
2 employees are held, the first meeting allowing the  
3 small group of employees to establish questions they  
4 would like to ask Mr. Myers or Mr. Bezilla, and the  
5 second meeting allowing Mr. Myers or Mr. Bezilla to  
6 address those questions and allow the employees to  
7 meet with them face-to-face. I think this -- the  
8 four C's meeting was a wonderful idea because I like  
9 to talk to my COO or my VP face-to-face, and I know  
10 that my issues and questions are directly -- are  
11 directly getting to him. Thank you.

12 MS. LIPA: Thank you, Shane.

13 THEREUPON, the audience applauded.

14 MS. LIPA: I appreciate your  
15 comments and, you know, one of the reasons that we  
16 have the public meetings every month is to try to  
17 reach as many people that are interested in  
18 understanding the NRC's role in regulating the  
19 Davis-Besse plant, so we're trying to reach out to  
20 folks, too, and I think the news coverage, there's  
21 been a lot of it and it's been pretty good, it might  
22 be hard for somebody to understand the whole story,  
23 though, just by reading what's in the paper, that's  
24 why the newsletters we put out try to explain more  
25 about what we're doing, and hopefully everybody can

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1 understand. Thank you. Hi.

2 MR. HOOK: Hi. Good evening. My  
3 name is John Hook, and I'm the Supervisor in Design  
4 Engineering Structural Mechanics Unit. I have  
5 worked at Davis-Besse in Design Engineering for over  
6 16 years.

7 In my capacity, I have reviewed hundreds of  
8 condition reports, but tonight I would like to share  
9 with you a recent example that occurred in my unit.  
10 Last week one of my engineers had a question from the  
11 field concerning the installation of a water tight  
12 seal used in the containment.

13 Upon further investigation of this issue, it  
14 was identified that the documentation for the water  
15 tight seal did not support the application, and a  
16 condition report was identified and written. There  
17 were several items associated with this condition  
18 report and is typical of many other condition reports  
19 that I have reviewed that I would like to share with  
20 you tonight. It represents a strong safety culture,  
21 which is our primary responsibility. It displays a  
22 strong questioning attitude which is a need to  
23 understand our design basis. It is very  
24 self-critical of our work. It has the potential to  
25 adversely affect the Mode 4 restart schedule.

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1 Schedule pressures do not deter the individual from  
2 identifying this condition. There is a focus on  
3 resolving this issue and not on the messenger. We  
4 are working together to resolve this issue in a  
5 timely fashion.

6 I would like for you to know that the  
7 condition report process is working and that it is  
8 being used by the employees to identify and resolve  
9 issues at Davis-Besse. I am particularly proud of  
10 the fact that even though we have been in a long  
11 outage, we are not afraid to raise questions even  
12 though they could impact the restart at the very end.  
13 This is another example of the strong safety culture  
14 at Davis-Besse and why our plant will be a lot safer  
15 when we start up. Thank you.

16 THEREUPON, the audience applauded.

17 MS. LIPA: Thank you for your  
18 comments, John.

19 Anybody else have any questions or comments  
20 for us?

21 MR. WITT: I'm Jere Witt, I'm  
22 County Administrator, also a member of the Restart  
23 Overview Panel and also a member of the Company  
24 Nuclear Review Board. I just want everyone to  
25 understand that this process, as my boss, Mr. Arndt,

1 explained in the afternoon meeting, is what I believe  
 2 to be a good one. I have watched it for the past  
 3 almost year and a half now. I think that the NRC is  
 4 doing the right things and asking the right  
 5 questions, and I believe that the utility is giving  
 6 honest answers.

7 I think there's a lot of processes that have  
 8 been put in place through this that will be the  
 9 industry standard in the future, and I truly believe  
 10 that when we reach that point, which we aren't at  
 11 today, but when we reach that point of recommending  
 12 the restart of the plant, that I can say I did that  
 13 knowing that it would be safe, which is our foremost  
 14 concern and foremost concern of the County residents,  
 15 and we will not only feel that way at that point in  
 16 time, but the County will stay involved as part of  
 17 that Company Nuclear Review Board and also stay  
 18 involved with some requests that we have made of the  
 19 NRC to make sure we're informed and this type of  
 20 thing never happens again. Thank you.

21 THEREUPON, the audience applauded.

22 MS. LIPA: Thank you, Jere.

23 Anybody else?

24 MR. OPFER: My name is Darrell

25 Opfer. I live within the 10 mile EPZ of the plant,

1 former County Commissioner and former State  
2 Representative, currently Director of the Ottawa  
3 County Improvement Corporation.

4 I was mailed a message this past Saturday,  
5 which I would like to enter into the record. The  
6 letter indicates it is from Ken Benjamin.

7 Hello, Darrell,

8 Please add our name to the list of local  
9 people and companies who approve the start-up of  
10 Davis-Besse as soon as possible.

11 We believe the commitment made to not only  
12 correct past unknown problems, but also upgrade to  
13 the latest technology safety standards will serve  
14 this area for years to come.

15 No one wants the nuclear industry to fail,  
16 except those without vision of future long-term  
17 electrical requirements.

18 Power Generation, like so many modern  
19 inventions, are a work in progress and not without  
20 risk.

21 On the 100th Anniversary of Flight, many  
22 prominent people of that period tried to convince  
23 both the Wright brothers and the general public  
24 powered manned flight was both unsafe, impractical,  
25 and, frankly, impossible, and that was just 100 years

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1 ago.

2 Do I need to remind anyone that since 1903 we  
3 have a manned space station circling earth and have  
4 been to the moon?

5 We vote in the strongest terms to get on with  
6 the start-up program at the nearby Davis-Besse Power  
7 Generation Plant.

8 Respectfully submitted, Ken Benjamin,  
9 President, the Benjamin Company located in  
10 Put-in-Bay, Ohio and currently President of the  
11 Erie/Ottawa Airport Authority.

12 Thank you very much for having the  
13 opportunity to have this read into the record.

14 MS. LIPA: Thank you.

15 THEREUPON, the audience applauded.

16 MS. LIPA: Anybody else have any  
17 comments or questions for us?

18 MR. DUSSEL: Hi, my name is Tim  
19 Dussel, I'm a local resident, and I would like to  
20 know if the NRC has said anything to the local public  
21 on this valve in the hydrogen detection equipment,  
22 why there hasn't been anymore said what was going on,  
23 what its purpose is?

24 MS. LIPA: Okay. Scott, do you  
25 want to answer that? There was an LER on that topic.

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1           MR. THOMAS:       Okay, these valves  
2       were, it appears that these valves were part of  
3       original construction, they have been -- these valves  
4       isolate cooling water through a heat exchanger in the  
5       gas analyzer. Apparently they have been shut since  
6       original construction. What that does is it renders  
7       the -- the heat exchanger obviously inoperable. What  
8       the function of a heat exchanger is, its function is  
9       it cools air coming from -- or air that has a high  
10      vapor content coming from containment in the  
11      post-accident condition. It cools it so the gas  
12      analyzer can perform its function, so the impact of  
13      not having the heat exchanger would be that the  
14      analyzer wouldn't provide an accurate reading.

15               Did that answer your question?

16           MR. DUSSEL:       Yes, somewhat, but I  
17      don't understand why, you know, the news media kind  
18      of gets beat up because they say that information is  
19      given -- I don't understand why the NRC or  
20      FirstEnergy hasn't let the public know a little more  
21      on what's going on with this. They knew about it at  
22      the last meeting and nothing was ever brought up  
23      about it.

24           MS. LIPA:        Okay, well, what -- I  
25      guess what I would like to say about that is we have

1 a regulation in 10CFR50.73 that requires for certain  
2 conditions that the utility finds, they need to  
3 submit these written reports, and this is one of  
4 those, and it's a 60 day report, so they sent that  
5 report in, and there have been others. They are  
6 called Licensee Event Reports. This particular one  
7 came in and like all the Licensee Event Reports that  
8 we get in, we do an assessment of the current  
9 condition and we do -- this system is not needed for  
10 the mode that the plant is in now, so then we know  
11 that before they restart, they have to come up with a  
12 plan to resolve the problem -- they are going to  
13 solve the problem going forward, and also we do an  
14 assessment of the risk significance in the as found  
15 condition for how significant that was looking back,  
16 and so we do have plans like we do with all Licensee  
17 Event Reports to do an inspection of it, to do an  
18 assessment of the as found risk significance and to  
19 check what corrective actions the utility is planning  
20 to correct the condition, so we don't necessarily  
21 talk about every single one. It's not that we, you  
22 know, if we knew that it was of interest, we would.  
23 I mean, that's what we try to do in preparing for  
24 each of our monthly meetings. It's what's happened  
25 recently that might be important to folks, so this

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1 one was of interest to you, and we just didn't have  
2 -- discuss that.

3 MR. DUSSEL: It seems to me that  
4 valves that's been left closed since the plant has  
5 been opened, I just wonder what kind of inspections  
6 and other valves have been left closed and have not  
7 been opened? There's got to be thousands and  
8 thousands and thousands of valves and to go since '77  
9 and not know they don't work is pretty frightening.  
10 Thank you.

11 MR. GROBE: I would just like to  
12 add a comment or two to what Christine said and the  
13 questions you've asked are very good ones, and they  
14 are questions that the utility is asking themselves  
15 and we will be looking at in following up on in this  
16 Licensee Event Report. Two things to add.

17 This issue is not uniquely significant, and  
18 one of the reasons for that is the lack of cooling,  
19 this cooling that Scott described for the gas that's  
20 going into the hydrogen analyzer. The loss of  
21 cooling would cause the instrument to over respond,  
22 so the operators, while it wouldn't be an accurate  
23 response, the operators would have information that  
24 would cause them to go check something out if, in  
25 fact, the situation existed in an accident condition,

1 so it would not be a situation where a function was  
2 lost and the operators wouldn't have the information  
3 they needed. It would be a situation where the  
4 instrument would over respond and indicate that there  
5 was hydrogen present in greater concentrations than  
6 actually may have existed inside containment. In  
7 that kind of a situation, the operators have other  
8 means to sample the containment atmosphere which they  
9 would have pursued.

10 MR. THOMAS: Just one other thing  
11 is that this issue didn't impact the actual  
12 mitigation equipment. It just impacted their  
13 ability to analyze the functionality of the hydrogen  
14 analyzer, so they still have the mitigation equipment  
15 available, it was just the loss of the analyzer that  
16 this impacted.

17 MS. LIPA: Okay. Thank you.  
18 Anybody else have any questions for us?

19 MR. RODER: My name is Mike Roder,  
20 I'm the Operations Manager at Davis-Besse. I have  
21 been a lifelong resident of Ottawa County. I also  
22 became Operations Manager a little over a year ago in  
23 June of 2002. I genuinely care about the local  
24 community. I'm also raising my family here as I was  
25 raised here. I assure you the Operations Department

1 and the rest at Davis-Besse have taken the lessons  
2 learned from a reactor vessel head event and  
3 internalized that event. We have worked hard to  
4 make sure our standards and expectations are the best  
5 practices in the industry. The Operations  
6 Department and myself, and the rest of Davis-Besse,  
7 recognize and fully accept the responsibility we have  
8 not only to the company, to the NRC, but also to our  
9 community.

10 I ask that the NRC and the community take  
11 into consideration what Davis-Besse has done, and  
12 what we are now doing and the positive changes we  
13 have made and use that as they consider our decision  
14 on restart. Thank you.

15 MS. LIPA: Thank you, Mike.

16 THEREUPON, the audience applauded.

17 MS. LIPA: Anybody else have any  
18 comments or questions for us?

19 MRS. RODER: I'm Peggy Roder,  
20 neither of us knew the other one was going to talk  
21 tonight, but I have a few comments coming from the  
22 perspective of somebody that's been on the inside and  
23 the outside sort of for the last 20 years married to  
24 an operator.

25 I have been sitting -- I have been coming to

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1 all of these meetings and listening to all the  
2 comments that everybody has for and against, and one  
3 of the things that isn't brought up very often is the  
4 environmental impact. You know, the people that  
5 don't want this plant to open up, I would think would  
6 be the same ones that would be worried about the  
7 environmental impact of the other forms of  
8 electricity we have out there. As soon as  
9 Davis-Besse opened, Toledo Edison was able to cut  
10 back or even close some coal plants. Coal, of  
11 course, that, you know, meant it was, they could --  
12 the amount of pollutants is drastically reduced. I  
13 have a perfect example of that because I live  
14 straight across from the plant, so we get to see work  
15 every day, and on certain days -- on a clear day you  
16 look across and you see the plant putting out this  
17 water vapor, white and pretty, just pure water vapor,  
18 and over the top up in the air, the jet stream will  
19 carry a band of yellow, ugly, horrible looking smoke  
20 that comes from Monroe, Michigan that I can see going  
21 right over the top of the water vapor, and I always  
22 wondered why the environmentalists aren't more  
23 concerned about that than they are nuclear power.  
24 Over the last several years -- 10 years ago  
25 maybe when the economy was such that everyone was

1 cutting back, everyone was cutting back on  
2 expenditures, cutting back, you know, laying off  
3 people, there was fewer -- there was less capital  
4 improvements and so forth and the whole theme was cut  
5 back, cut back, and middle management was starting to  
6 get very frustrated. They had to just prioritize  
7 their work, do only what was totally necessary, and  
8 cut back all the other stuff, and the staff -- they  
9 were frustrated, too, because they were working with  
10 inferior equipment, they became somewhat complacent  
11 maybe in their work, that feeling of camaraderie and  
12 almost a family feeling that was there at Davis-Besse  
13 was no longer there, and that led us to February of  
14 2002, then came in the new management team, and they  
15 started to shift focus of what they do. It used to  
16 be more like, okay, just push it along, and it's  
17 okay, we can get by with that, just keep going, and  
18 that led us to where we got.

19 Now, it's more of everything has to be right  
20 the first time, if it's not done right the first  
21 time, you do it right the second time, and it's got  
22 to be done safely. It's a totally different  
23 atmosphere. It's coming back to that. There was a  
24 poor group -- a group of middle management, and so  
25 forth that has been there all along that cares about



1 the plant that has been there forever. The families  
2 live there. They work there, my goodness, they  
3 wouldn't want to do anything that's going to impact  
4 their own lives, by, you know, letting things go that  
5 shouldn't be let go. I think that now they're  
6 starting to get excited because they see they can  
7 talk to their management, they can -- there's money  
8 being put in where it needs to be put in. They're  
9 excited here -- it's just a different feeling, and I  
10 get this feedback on a nightly basis. I hear what's  
11 going on. Even though I don't work there, I get  
12 quite a bit of feedback, so I know the whole -- just  
13 talking to several people, the whole atmosphere is  
14 beginning to change.

15 I get a lot of people asking me, oh, gosh,  
16 aren't you worried living right across from  
17 Davis-Besse like that? I'm 12 miles as the crow  
18 flies from it, just straight across east, so  
19 prevailing winds would come right by my house, and I  
20 just simply say, no, I'm not worried. That's what  
21 the safety systems are for and they have always  
22 worked. If one doesn't work, there's a back-up to  
23 that and there's a back-up to that, and I know all  
24 the different generators and all these things to back  
25 it up, and because I know about it, I'm not worried

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1 about it, and, no, I don't have Potassium Iodine  
 2 pills, I just don't worry about it, so I think  
 3 everybody has learned a lot of lessons, the  
 4 management team and hopefully the NRC, too,  
 5 oversight, seeing this whole thing happened while  
 6 there were NRC inspectors on site why there weren't  
 7 questions about the filter changes and all that  
 8 before, I don't know. I think everybody has learned  
 9 their lessons, and I'm convinced it's going to be a  
 10 safety long run now for Davis-Besse, and I'm anxious  
 11 to get things moving. Thank you.

12 MS. LIPA: Thank you for your  
 13 comments.

14 THEREUPON, the audience applauded.

15 MS. LIPA: Anybody else have any  
 16 comments for us or questions? When we started, we  
 17 opened it up to local residents, but we'll open it up  
 18 to anybody who has a comment or a question for us.

19 (NO AUDIBLE RESPONSE).

20 MS. LIPA: I'd like to point out  
 21 that next month our meeting will be on Wednesday for  
 22 a change. We had to do that for schedule reasons.  
 23 It will be September 10th back here at the same  
 24 facility, 2:00 business meeting and 7:00 meeting with  
 25 the public.

1 Anybody else have any comments or questions?

2 (NO AUDIBLE RESPONSE).

3 MS. LIPA: Okay, well, then,

4 thank you for coming. Good night.

5

6 THEREUPON, the meeting was adjourned.

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## CERTIFICATE

STATE OF OHIO )  
                  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF HURON )

I, Marlene S. Lewis, Stenotype Reporter and  
Notary Public within and for the State aforesaid,  
duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify  
that the foregoing, consisting of 27 pages, was taken  
by me in stenotype and was reduced to writing by me  
by means of Computer-Aided Transcription; that the  
foregoing is a true and complete transcript of the  
proceedings held in that room on the 12th day of  
August, 2003 before The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission.

I also further certify that I was present in  
the room during all of the proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
and seal of office at Wakeman, Ohio this      day of  
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Marlene S. Lewis  
Notary Public  
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Wakeman, OH 44889

My commission expires 4/29/04

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