



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS ITS REVIEW OF FENOC'S ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS OF DAVIS-BESSE SHIELD BUILDING CRACKS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a public meeting on Aug. 9 to discuss its independent review of FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Co.'s (FENOC) causal analysis of, and proposed corrective actions for, cracks in the shield building at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The NRC has determined the plant's root cause analysis established a sufficient basis for its conclusions. The plant is located in Oak Harbor, Ohio, approximately 21 miles southeast of Toledo.

The meeting on Aug. 9 will run from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. EDT at the Oak Harbor High School, 11661 W. State Route 163, Oak Harbor, Ohio. The meeting will be open for the public to ask questions of the NRC after the presentations have been made. Members of the public can also participate by calling the toll-free teleconference number 888-889-4158 and entering passcode 7330354. An informational poster session will also be held before the meeting from 6 to 6:30 p.m. EDT. This session will provide agency information and allow attendees to discuss topics with NRC staff on a one-on-one basis.

The NRC conducted a thorough, independent review of the plant's root cause determination to make sure the reasons for the internal cracks in the shield building are well understood. The agency evaluated the company's proposed actions to ensure the continued safety of the shield building going forward. These actions included additional tests and laboratory analysis of the shield building; applying a protective moisture coating on the building; and plans to restore the plant's design and licensing basis.

These reviews were performed by a team of four NRC inspectors who evaluated whether the company's data and analysis were thorough and rigorous. The NRC team concluded that the actions proposed by the company should prevent recurrence of the laminar cracking if properly implemented.

In addition, the NRC's license renewal experts are evaluating the implications of this issue in the context of Davis-Besse's request to extend its operating license.

The NRC documented the results of its independent inspection in a publicly available inspection report at: <http://adams.nrc.gov/wba/>; enter ML12173A023 as a search term. The report can also be obtained from the NRC Region III Office of Public Affairs.

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