



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 7, 2015

Mr. Brian D. Boles
Site Vice President
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
Mail Stop A-DB-3080
5501 North State, Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

SUBJECT: DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 1 – PROGRAM FOR
MANAGEMENT OF IRRADIATED FUEL (TAC NO. MF4061)

Dear Mr. Boles:

Pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Section 50.54(bb), nuclear power plant licensee's must submit an irradiated fuel management and funding program to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), for review and preliminary approval, 5 years before the expiration of its operating license. The program must describe how the licensee intends to manage and provide funding for the management of all irradiated fuel at the reactor following permanent cessation of operations until the fuel is transferred to the Secretary of Energy for ultimate disposal in a repository. Licensees are also required by 10 CFR 50.75(f)(3) to submit a preliminary cost estimate, which includes an up-to-date assessment of the major factors that could affect the cost to decommission the reactor.

By letter dated April 24, 2014 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML14115A301), FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC, the licensee) submitted its irradiated fuel management program for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station (DBNPS), Unit No. 1. The irradiated fuel management program is based on the December 2013 revision to the DBNPS decommissioning cost estimate (DCE), which was also provided with the letter.¹

The NRC staff has reviewed the irradiated fuel management program and revised DCE. As FENOC acknowledged in its letter, the irradiated fuel management program was not submitted 5 years before the expiration of its license (April 22, 2017), as required by 10 CFR 50.54(bb). FENOC stated that this issue will be entered into its corrective action program. The staff did not identify any other issues with the irradiated fuel management program and revised DCE.

FENOC has applied to have the DBNPS license renewed until 2037, and this application is currently under review by the NRC staff. If the license is renewed, the letter states that FENOC will cancel the irradiated fuel management program and submit a new program 5 years before the expiration of the renewed license. Based on this, the NRC staff is deferring its decision regarding the acceptability of the irradiated fuel management program until a final determination

¹ FENOC previously provided the May 2011 revision to the DBNPS DCE, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.75(f)(3), by letter dated August 22, 2013 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13247A054).

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on the license renewal application is made. The staff will make a decision regarding the acceptability of the provided irradiated fuel management program only if the DBNPS license is not renewed or FENOC decides not to continue commercial operations after April 22, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1380.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B/P Purnell", written in a cursive style.

Blake Purnell, Project Manager
Plant Licensing III-2 and
Planning and Analysis Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-346

cc: ListServ

B. Boles

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Blake Purnell, Project Manager
Plant Licensing III-2 and
Planning and Analysis Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
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