

November 13, 1985

Docket No. 50-346

DISTRIBUTION

Mr. Joe Williams, Jr.  
Vice President, Nuclear  
Toledo Edison Company  
Edison Plaza - Stop 712  
300 Madison Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio 43652

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Dear Mr. Williams:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO USE AN ALTERNATIVE PRESSURE TESTING METHOD -  
DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION.

By letter dated October 18, 1985 (Serial No. 1199), Toledo Edison company requested approval to use an alternative inspection method to meet the requirements of Section XI of the ASME Code for inservice pressure tests at Davis-Besse. The alternative testing method, Instrumented Inspection Technique, is described in a topical report submitted to the NRC by HAFA International Incorporated by letter dated April 4, 1985 to demonstrate that the proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety as required by 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3).

We have reviewed and evaluated the proposed alternative testing method as discussed in the topical report. We have determined that the alternative testing method provides added assurance of system and component structural integrity and leak tightness when compared to conventional pressure testing and is therefore an acceptable alternative. We have also determined that the small leak detection and location capabilities of the alternative method make it applicable for intersystem leakage detection, and that the four-hour hold time requirement prior to visual inspection of the systems may be reduced to two hours. We therefore approve its use as an alternative testing method as requested in your letter.

Sincerely,

\*ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
JOHN F. STOLZ\*

John F. Stolz, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #4  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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Q PDR

Mr. J. Williams  
Toledo Edison Company

Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station  
Unit No. 1

cc:  
Donald H. Hauser, Esq.  
The Cleveland Electric  
Illuminating Company  
P. O. Box 5000  
Cleveland, Ohio 44101

Ohio Department of Health  
ATTN: Radiological Health  
Program Director  
P. O. Box 118  
Columbus, Ohio 43216

Mr. Robert F. Peters  
Manager, Nuclear Licensing  
Toledo Edison Company  
Edison Plaza  
300 Madison Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio 43652

Attorney General  
Department of Attorney  
General  
30 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Gerald Charnoff, Esq.  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts  
and Trowbridge  
1800 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Mr. James W. Harris, Director  
Division of Power Generation  
Ohio Department of Industrial Relations  
2323 West 5th Avenue  
P. O. Box 825  
Columbus, Ohio 43216

Paul M. Smart, Esq.  
Fuller & Henry  
300 Madison Avenue  
P. O. Box 2088  
Toledo, Ohio 43603

Mr. Harold Kohn, Staff Scientist  
Power Siting Commission  
361 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43216

Mr. Robert B. Borsum  
Babcock & Wilcox  
Nuclear Power Generation  
Division  
Suite 200, 7910 Woodmont Avenue  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

President, Board of  
Ottawa County  
Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
5503 N. State Route 2  
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449

Regional Administrator, Region III  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137