



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

December 3, 1984

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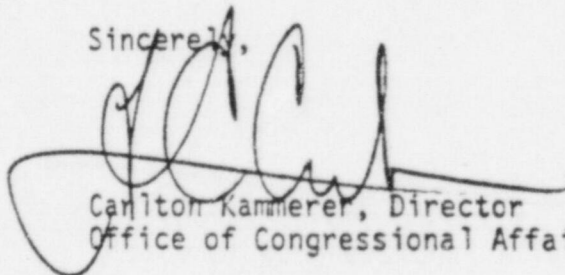
The Honorable Richard L. Ottinger, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is an announcement that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff proposes a \$20,000 fine against Toledo Edison Company for alleged safety violations at the Davis Besse plant.

It is planned to mail this information to the news media today, December 3, 1984.

Sincerely,


Carlton Kammerer, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Rep. Carlos Moorhead

IDENTICAL LETTER SENT TO:
Sen. Simpson/cc: Sen. Hart
Rep. Udall/cc: Rep. Lujan
Rep. Markey/cc: Rep. Marlenee
Sen. Glenn
Sen. Metzenbaum
Rep. Latta

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT: 84-52

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NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$90,000 FINE AGAINST TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY FOR ALLEGED SAFETY VIOLATIONS AT DAVIS BESSE PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$90,000 fine against the Toledo Edison Company for five alleged violations of NRC requirements involving the operability of safety-related equipment at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station near Port Clinton, Ohio.

Two of the alleged violations account for \$50,000 of the proposed fine. An NRC inspection in June-July 1984 determined that one violation involved the inadvertent shutdown of part of the plant's Control Room Emergency Ventilation System for a 14-day period. This system maintains the habitability of the Control Room during an emergency through air filtration and temperature control. Two control switches which affect the cooling function of the system were found to be in the "off" position from April 23 to May 7, 1984, a violation of NRC requirements.

Neither Toledo Edison nor the NRC could determine why the two switches were turned off. (The emergency ventilation system was never called upon during this time period.)

The second violation involved the utility's failure to follow NRC-approved procedures during the operation of a "startup feedwater pump." (This pump is used to pump water through a steam generator when the reactor is starting up. Steam generators remove heat from the reactor.)

Three other violations, with a proposed cumulative fine of \$40,000, were:

(1). On November 1, 1983, the licensee removed one of two Emergency Diesel Generator Ventilation supply fans from service without preparing a written safety evaluation and without realizing that this action represented a change in approved procedures. Two ventilation supply fans are required to ventilate each room containing a diesel generator. (Diesel generators supply power to safety-related systems in the event of the loss of off-site power.)

(2). The licensee failed to prepare a written safety evaluation when it opened a suction valve on the startup feedwater pump during power operation. In the event of a pipe break, water could flow through the open valve into the auxiliary feedwater room, jeopardizing the operability of auxiliary pumps which provide emergency water to the steam generators.

(3). On March 8 and May 4, 1984, lead shielding was hung on piping by licensee personnel without preparing a written safety evaluation. It was later determined that the piping could withstand the extra load.

Toledo Edison has until December 21, 1984, to either pay the fine or protest it. If the fine is protested and subsequently imposed formally by the NRC staff, the utility may request a hearing.

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November 27, 1984