

March 4, 2002

Mr. Howard Bergendahl
Vice President - Nuclear, Davis-Besse
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
5501 North State Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION
(REPORT 50-346/2002-01)

Dear Mr. Bergendahl:

On January 31, 2002, the NRC staff completed its end-of-cycle plant performance assessment of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The end-of-cycle review for Davis-Besse involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from April 1, 2001, to December 31, 2001. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities. On April 3, 2002, we plan to discuss this assessment with you and your staff in a meeting at the Davis-Besse Administration Building. This meeting will be open for public observation.

As discussed in our previous annual assessment letter dated May 31, 2001, this inspection and assessment cycle consisted of three quarters (i.e., the second, third, and fourth quarters of calendar year 2001) instead of the usual four quarters. This change was implemented in order to align the inspection and assessment cycle with the calendar year beginning on January 1, 2002.

Overall, Davis-Besse operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as the first two quarters of the assessment cycle, was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only baseline inspections at your facility through March 31, 2003. Also, along with routine outage-related inspections, we will conduct an inspection associated with Bulletin 2001-01, "Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles."

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through March 31, 2003. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The last 6 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the Mid-Cycle Review meeting.

In addition to the baseline inspection program, the NRC issued safeguards advisories recommending that nuclear power plant licensees go to the highest level of security immediately following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and all promptly did so. With continued uncertainty about the possibility of additional terrorist activities, the Nation's nuclear power plants, including the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, remain at a high level of security. On February 25, 2002, the NRC issued an Order to all nuclear power plant licensees, requiring them to take certain additional interim compensatory measures to address the generalized high-level threat environment. These additional compensatory requirements will provide the NRC with reasonable assurance that public health and safety and the common defense and security continue to be adequately protected in the current generalized high-level threat environment. These requirements will remain in effect pending notification from the Commission that a significant change in the threat environment occurs, or until the Commission determines that other changes are needed following a more comprehensive re-evaluation of current safeguards and security programs. To date, we have monitored Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station actions in response to the terrorist attacks through a series of audits. With the issuance of the Order, we will evaluate Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station's compliance with these interim requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (630) 829-9619 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Christine A. Lipa, Chief
Projects Branch 4
Division of Reactor Projects, Region III

Docket No. 50-346
License No. NPF-3

Enclosure: Davis-Besse Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: B. Saunders, President - FENOC
Plant Manager
Manager - Regulatory Affairs
M. O'Reilly, FirstEnergy
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Davis-Besse
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/04/2002 - 03/31/2003

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	BIP	- ROUTINE RESIDENT INSPECTION	2			
1	IP 7111120	Refueling and Outage Activities		02/16/2002	03/31/2002	Baseline Inspections
	ISI	- INSERVICE INSPECTION & TI-145	1			
1	IP 2515/145	Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles (NRC Bulletin :		02/20/2002	03/15/2002	Safety Issues
1	IP 7111108	Inservice Inspection Activities		02/20/2002	03/15/2002	Baseline Inspections
	FY 2002	- DAVIS-BESSE INIT EXAM 03/2002	2			
1	W90052	OL - INITIAL EXAM - DAVIS-BESSE - FEB/MAR 2002		03/04/2002	03/08/2002	Not Applicable
	IP 71121	- ALARA OUTAGE RP INSPECTION	1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		03/04/2002	03/15/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		03/04/2002	03/15/2002	Baseline Inspections
	BIP	- ROUTINE RESIDENT INSPECTION	2			
1	IP 7111106	Flood Protection Measures		04/01/2002	05/11/2002	Baseline Inspections
	IP 71114	- BASELINE EP ROUTINE INSPECTION	1			
1	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		04/22/2002	04/26/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		04/22/2002	04/26/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		04/22/2002	04/26/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		04/22/2002	04/26/2002	Baseline Inspections
	BIP	- ROUTINE RESIDENT INSPECTION	2			
1	IP 7111101	Adverse Weather Protection		05/12/2002	06/30/2002	Baseline Inspections
	IP 71121	- OCCUPATIONAL RAD SAFETY INSPECTION	1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		06/03/2002	06/07/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		06/03/2002	06/07/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation		06/03/2002	06/07/2002	Baseline Inspections
	71130	- SAFEGUARDS INSPECTION-AA/AC/PI/PC	1			
1	IP 7113001	Access Authorization Program (Behavior Observation Only)		07/22/2002	07/26/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7113002	Access Control (Search of Personnel, Packages, and Vehicles: Identification and Authorizatio		07/22/2002	07/26/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7113004	Security Plan Changes		07/22/2002	07/26/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		07/22/2002	07/26/2002	Baseline Inspections
	IP 71121	- RAD INSTRUMENTATION INSPECTION	1			
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation		09/09/2002	09/13/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		09/09/2002	09/13/2002	Baseline Inspections
	FPI	- TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION	3			
1	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection		10/07/2002	10/25/2002	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Davis-Besse
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/04/2002 - 03/31/2003

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	CONT B	- SAFEGUARDS INSPECTION-RESPONSE TEST	2			
1	IP 7113003	Response to Contingency Events (Protective Strategy and Implementation of Protective Strategie		10/21/2002	10/25/2002	Baseline Inspections
	BIP	- PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION	3			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		11/04/2002	11/22/2002	Baseline Inspections
	71111.11	- LIC OPERATOR REQUAL PROGRAM EVALUATION	2			
1	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification		11/11/2002	11/15/2002	Baseline Inspections
	BIP	- ROUTINE RESIDENT INSPECTION	2			
1	IP 7111101	Adverse Weather Protection		11/17/2002	12/28/2002	Baseline Inspections
	SSDI	- SAFETY SYSTEM BIENNIAL (DRS)	6			
1	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		01/27/2003	02/14/2003	Baseline Inspections
	IP 71122	- LIQ/GASEOUS EFFLUENTS INSPECTION	1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		03/10/2003	03/14/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		03/10/2003	03/14/2003	Baseline Inspections