



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

March 9, 2012

Mr. Barry S. Allen, Site Vice President
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
Mail Stop A-DB-3080
5501 North State Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE REVISION FOR THE SAFETY REVIEW OF THE DAVIS-BESSE
NUCLEAR POWER STATION, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION (TAC
NO. ME4640)

Dear Mr. Allen:

By letter dated August 27, 2010, FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) submitted an application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51 and 10 CFR Part 54, to renew Operating License NPF-003 for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1 (Davis-Besse), for review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff).

Enclosed is the NRC staff's revised safety review schedule for the Davis-Besse license renewal application (LRA). In order to support an Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) subcommittee meeting, the Safety Evaluation Report (SER) with open items should not contain more than ten open items. The staff has determined that the number of open items in the Davis-Besse SER exceeds ten. The staff finds that adequate resolution of technical issues to resolve open items cannot be achieved within the current schedule. In addition, the staff recently received a root cause evaluation related to degradation of the Davis-Besse shield building concrete and expects to receive a response to a request for additional information (RAI) on the issue by the end of March 2012. The staff has revised the license renewal review schedule to delay the ACRS subcommittee meeting because it will require additional time to resolve open items and complete a thorough review of additional information regarding the shield building cracks.

Specific technical issues requiring resolution include: (1) shield building crack; (2) Class 1 valve fatigue analysis; (3) intake canal degradation; (4) operating experience; (5) abandoned equipment; (6) refueling canal leakage; (7) reactor vessel neutron embrittlement; (8) MRP-227-A implementation; (9) groundwater infiltration; (10) spent fuel pool leakage; and, (11) borated water leakage from reactor cavity.

To support the revised schedule milestones, your responses to the staff's RAIs must be complete and provided in a timely manner. After receiving the RAI responses, the staff will review and incorporate the responses into its safety review. The timeliness of your responses is necessary to maintain the schedule, and any delay could result in additional revisions to the enclosed schedule with the potential of leaving milestone schedule dates to be determined

B. Allen

- 2 -

until responses are received and appropriately factored into a new schedule. We request that you inform the NRC as soon as possible regarding any potential delays in your support of the revised schedule.

We would like to emphasize that the NRC staff will make every effort to meet the revised schedule milestones. The NRC will continue to follow established review procedures and the enclosed safety review schedule to complete the reviews required by 10 CFR Part 54.

If you have any questions on the revised schedule, please contact Mr. Samuel Cuadrado de Jesús, Project Manager for the review of the Davis-Besse LRA safety review, by telephone at 301-415-2946 or by e-mail at samuel.cuadradodejesus@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Melanie A. Galloway, Acting Director
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-346

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl: Listserv

DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
UPDATED SAFETY REVIEW SCHEDULE

Milestones	Schedule Date	Actual Date
Receive license renewal application (LRA)	08/30/10	08/30/10
Publish <i>Federal Register</i> Notice (FRN) - LRA receipt and availability	09/17/10	09/20/10
Publish FRN - LRA acceptability and opportunity for hearing	10/20/10	10/25/10
Public Meeting - license renewal process and environmental scoping	11/04/10	11/04/10
Deadline for filing hearing requests and petitions for intervention	12/24/10	12/24/10
Audit - scoping and screening methodology	01/24/11	01/24/11
Audit - aging management programs (AMPs)	02/14/11	02/14/11
Inspection - scoping, screening, and AMPs	04/2011	04/25/11
Safety RAIs - Issued	04/29/11	04/29/11
Safety RAIs – First Round Responses Received	05/30/11	05/30/11
Issue safety evaluation report (SER) with open items(s)	7/2012	
ACRS subcommittee meeting on SER with open item(s)	9/19/12	
Issue SER	10/2012	
ACRS full committee meeting on SER	12/2012	
NRR Decision	TBD	
Commission Decision (hearing pending)	TBD	

ENCLOSURE

B. Allen

- 2 -

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Melanie A. Galloway, Acting Director
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Letter to Barry S. Allen from Melanie A. Galloway dated March 9, 2012

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE REVISION FOR THE SAFETY REVIEW OF THE DAVIS-BESSE
NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 1, LICENSE RENEWAL
APPLICATION (TAC NO. ME4640)

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