

January 27, 2000

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

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 99-02,  
"LABORATORY TESTING OF NUCLEAR-GRADE ACTIVATED CHARCOAL" -  
DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. MA5785)

Dear Mr. Campbell:

On June 3, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 99-02, "Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-Grade Activated Charcoal," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

The purpose of the GL was to:

- (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.
- (2) Request that all addressees determine whether their Technical Specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing. Addressees whose TS do not reference ASTM D3803-1989 should either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the information discussed in the requested actions.
- (3) Alert addressees to the staff's intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions.
- (4) Request that all addressees send the NRC written responses on the implementation of the actions requested in this GL.

In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established the following four groups of plants:

- (1) Plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989

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- (2) Plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) Plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) Plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

Your letter of November 4, 1999 (Serial Number 2619, LAR 96-0013, Revision 1), provided your response to GL 99-02 for the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1. Associated with your response was a request for a license amendment to change your TS to provide for testing as described in the GL. The NRC staff has reviewed your response and has concluded that you have provided the requested information and a TS change request in accordance with the GL. In addition, you have agreed to test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989 until your TS amendment is issued. Therefore, we consider GL 99-02 to be closed for your facility. The TS change will be reviewed as a separate, plant-specific action under TAC No. MA7352. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1364.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Douglas V. Pickett, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-346

cc: See next page

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- (2) Plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) Plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) Plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Douglas V. Pickett, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2  
 Project Directorate III  
 Division of Licensing Project Management  
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Mr. Guy G. Campbell  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company

Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1

cc:

Mary E. O'Reilly  
FirstEnergy  
76 South Main Street  
Akron, OH 44308

Robert E. Owen, Chief  
Bureau of Radiological Health  
Service  
Ohio Department of Health  
P.O. Box 118  
Columbus, OH 43266-0118

James L. Freels  
Manager - Regulatory Affairs  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company  
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station  
5501 North State - Route 2  
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

James R. Williams, Executive Director  
Ohio Emergency Management Agency  
2855 West Dublin Granville Road  
Columbus, OH 43235-2206

Jay E. Silberg, Esq.  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts  
and Trowbridge  
2300 N Street, NW.  
Washington, DC 20037

Director  
Ohio Department of Commerce  
Division of Industrial Compliance  
Bureau of Operations & Maintenance  
6606 Tussing Road  
P.O. Box 4009  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-9009

Regional Administrator  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
801 Warrenville Road  
Lisle, IL 60523-4351

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
DERR--Compliance Unit  
ATTN: Zack A. Clayton  
P.O. Box 1049  
Columbus, OH 43266-0149

Michael A. Schoppman  
Framatome Technologies Incorporated  
1700 Rockville Pike, Suite 525  
Rockville, MD 20852

State of Ohio  
Public Utilities Commission  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43266-0573

Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
5503 North State Route 2  
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

Attorney General  
Department of Attorney  
30 East Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43216

James H. Lash, Plant Manager  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company  
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station  
5501 North State Route 2  
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

President, Board of County  
Commissioners of Ottawa County  
Port Clinton, OH 43252