

August 7, 2007

LICENSEE: FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC)

FACILITIES: Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2; Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1; and Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 1

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF JUNE 27, 2007, PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING FENOC'S RE-ANALYSIS OF THE TIME LINE AND ROOT CAUSES FOR THE 2002 DAVIS-BESSE REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD DEGRADATION EVENT

On June 27, 2007, a Category 1 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) senior staff and representatives of FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss FENOC's June 13, 2007, response to the NRC's May 14, 2007, Demand for Information (DFI) concerning FENOC's re-analysis of the time line and root causes for the 2002 Davis-Besse reactor pressure vessel head degradation event.

The NRC staff issued the May 14, 2007, DFI to determine whether further enforcement action was necessary to provide reasonable assurance that FENOC would continue to operate its licensed facilities in accordance with the terms of its license and the Commission's regulations. The DFI required FENOC to provide detailed information regarding the process used to evaluate the report developed by Exponent Failure Analysis Associates and Altran Solutions Corporation (Exponent Report), a detailed discussion of the differences between the operational data underpinning FENOC's earlier root cause reports and the assumptions underpinning the Exponent Report, and a position on whether FENOC endorsed the conclusions of a second contractor report prepared in connection with an associated insurance claim.

A list of principal meeting participants is provided as Enclosure 1. A list of meeting attendees is provided as Enclosure 2. The licensee's presentation can be found in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML071790596. The NRC's meeting handout materials can be found in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML071240254, ML071340333, ML071340325, ML071640480, and ML071710346.

The NRC senior staff opened the meeting by stating the purposes of the meeting, as follows:

- (1) To discuss FENOC's response to the NRC's May 14, 2007, Demand For Information (DFI). Specifically, to understand the timing of FENOC's review of the Exponent Report, and the factors FENOC considered when determining if the conclusions of the report should be communicated to the NRC.
- (2) To understand what lessons FENOC learned when they were preparing the response to the DFI, and what actions FENOC has taken and plans to take to address these lessons learned.

- (3) To understand FENOC's position regarding a second contracted report that was prepared for FENOC entitled, "Report on Reactor Pressure Vessel Wastage at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant," dated December 2006 (Mattson Report).

The NRC also provided some background on the events that led to the NRC's issuance of the DFI and the public meeting. A summary of the background is contained in the DFI document found in ADAMS under Accession No. ML071340333.

The licensee's presentation to the NRC senior staff addressed the three elements of the NRC's May 14, 2007, DFI. The presentation included a description of the time line of events from when FENOC received the Exponent and Mattson Reports in December 2006, to FENOC's June 13, 2007, DFI response; FENOC's initial consideration of the Exponent Report; FENOC's consideration of the NRC's April 2, 2007, request for information, and their May 2, 2007, response; a summary of FENOC's analysis of the Exponent and Mattson Reports, and the differences noted between the Exponent Report and the root cause reports; and identification of commitments FENOC intends to make to address the issues raised during their review of the Exponent and Mattson Reports.

The licensee acknowledged that their initial review of the Exponent Report lacked sensitivity to the regulatory interest and that their commercial and nuclear processes did not sufficiently interface during their review of the report.

At various times during the presentation, the NRC staff queried the licensee about aspects of the DFI response and the content of their presentation. The NRC acknowledged the licensee's commitments to develop a process to review reports prepared for commercial matters, to provide operational experience to industry, to improve their NRC correspondence procedure, to assess their Regulatory Communications policy, and to develop lessons learned from their May 2, 2007, response to the NRC. The NRC staff is considering further regulatory actions with regard to these commitments.

Several members of the public were in attendance and others participated via teleconference. Some members of the public asked questions of the NRC staff after the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting.

One member of the public asked the NRC what the next steps in the process would be. The NRC responded that FENOC needs to make the changes they have described, and that the NRC will need to determine if the corrective actions identified are necessary and sufficient.

One Public Meeting Feedback form was received following the meeting, which consisted of the following:

"As indicated on the June 13th meeting notice, meeting categories are defined in a document dated May 28, 2002, in the Federal Register. Why doesn't it also refer to an ADAMS document, like the May 21, 2002, Policy Statement (Accession No. ML021350492) such that a person can stay within the NRC document system instead of having to refer to an outside document system, in order to find the information about the meeting categories?"

This comment has been forwarded to the NRR Senior Communications Analyst for action.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-4037, or tjw2@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Thomas J. Wengert, Project Manager
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Office of Nuclear Reactor

Docket Nos. 50-334, 50-412, 50-346, and 50-440

Enclosures: 1. List of Principal Meeting Participants
2. List of Attendees

cc w/encls: See next page

This comment has been forwarded to the NRR Senior Communications Analyst for action.

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Package Accession No. ML072070184

Summary Accession No. ML072070145

Meeting Notice Accession No. ML071710346

Licensee's Slides Accession No. ML071790596

NRC Assessment of Exponent Report Accession No. ML071240254

NRC DFI Accession No. ML071340333

NRC DFI Letter Accession No. ML071340325

FENOC Response to DFI Accession No. ML071640480

NRC-001

OFFICE	LPL3-2/PM	LPL3-2/LA	DCI/CPNB	OE/D	LPL3-2/BC
NAME	TWengert	EWhitt	TChan	CCarpenter	RGibbs
DATE	8/7/07	8/7/07	8 / 2 /07	8 /1 /07	8/7/07

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LIST OF PRINCIPAL MEETING PARTICIPANTS
PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING FIRSTENERGY NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY'S
RE-ANALYSIS OF THE TIME LINE AND ROOT CAUSES FOR THE 2002
DAVIS-BESSE REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD DEGRADATION EVENT

JUNE 27, 2007

9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

C. Carpenter, Director, Office of Enforcement
W. Kane, Deputy Executive Director, Office of the Executive Director for Operations
J. Caldwell, Regional Administrator, Region III
S. Collins, Regional Administrator, Region I
J. Dyer, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
L. Chandler, Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel

FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company

G. Leidich, FirstEnergy Senior Vice President - Operations
J. Hagan, President and Chief Nuclear Officer
D. Pace, Senior Vice President, Fleet Engineering
G. Halnon, Director, Fleet Regulatory Affairs
C. Price, Director, Performance Improvement, Davis-Besse
J. Powers, Director, Fleet Engineering

LIST OF ATTENDEES

PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING FIRSTENERGY NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY'S

RE-ANALYSIS OF THE TIME LINE AND ROOT CAUSES FOR THE 2002

DAVIS-BESSE REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD DEGRADATION EVENT

JUNE 27, 2007

9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
1. A. Rueangvivatanakij	NEI
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3. J. Rinckel	FENOC
4. R. Reffner	FENOC
5. T. Schneider	FirstEnergy
6. E. Anderson	FENOC
7. S. Sands	NRC/NRR/DORL/LPL3-2
8. D. Pace	FENOC
9. J. Gutierrez	FENOC
10. J. Lieberman	Talisman
11. G. Halnon	FENOC
12. T. Matthews	MLB
13. J. Schmutz	ML&B
14. D. Jenkins	FENOC
15. S. Eaton	The Plain Dealer
16. J. Powers	FENOC
17. A. Ireland	NRC/RES
18. J. Kaizer	NRC/ACRS
19. R. Anzalone	NRC/DSS/SNPB
20. W. Jessup	NRC/NRR
21. C. Carpenter	NRC/RES
22. G. Caputo	NRC/OI
23. J. Fitzgerald	NRC/OI
24. G. Gulla	NRC/NRO
25. B. Garde	Clifford and Garde
26. S. Shepherd	Clifford and Garde
27. T. Kellum	NRC/DIRS
28. T. Houghton	NEI
29. K. Klump	NRC/DIRS
30. A. Zogrates	NRC/NRR/DE

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34. A. Valentin	NRC/RES
35. B. Cullen	NRC/RES
36. M. Srinivasan	NRC/RES
37. K. Hall	FirstEnergy
38. P. Pettey	Williams & Jensen
39. D. McIntyre	NRC/OPA
40. J. Cai	NRC/OE
41. A. Powell	NRC/OCA
42. T. Steingass	NRC/NRR
43. L. Regner	NRC/NRR
44. M. Cash	NRC/OIG
45. R. Laufer	NRC/OEDO
46. H. Nieh	NRC/NRR
47. D. Solorio	NRC/OE
48. K. Cyr	NRC/OGC
49. J. Beall	NRC
50. D. Starkey	NRC/OE
51. C. Gratton	NRC/DORL
52. E. Duncan	NRC/RIII
53. B. Burgess	NRC/RIII
54. T. Wengert	NRC/DORL
55. D. Horner	Platts/McGraw-Hill
56. M. Fahey	NRC/OI
57. S. Hackworth	NRC/OI
58. R. Haemer	Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman
59. D. Zaslowsky	Baker & McKenzie
60. J. Grobe	NRC
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65. S. Lee	NRC/OCM
66. T. Mensah	NRC/NRR/PSPB
67. T. Hibschan	NRC
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69. T. Henry	The Blade
70. U. Shoop	NRC

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73. R. Anderson*	FENOC
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75. B. Beach*	Consultant
76. M. Beiting*	FirstEnergy Corp.
77. D. Ferraro*	Member of the public
78. S. Focht*	ANI
79. J. Funk*	The Plain Dealer
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