



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, DC 20555-0001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Web Site: www.nrc.gov

No. 02-066

May 30, 2002

NRC TO MEET WITH FIRSTENERGY NUCLEAR OPERATING CO. JUNE 4 TO DISCUSS REPLACEMENT OF DAVIS-BESSE REACTOR VESSEL HEAD

The staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will meet June 4 with representatives from FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company to discuss replacement of the reactor pressure vessel head at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station.

The meeting will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room in the agency's One White Flint North Building, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The meeting will be open to the public for observation and NRC officials will be available before the meeting adjourns to answer any questions. The meeting contacts are Stephen Sands at (301) 415-3154 and Douglas Pickett at (301) 415-1364.

Interested individuals may listen to the meeting via telephone by calling: (888) 390-5922 and entering passcode 1234 at the prompt. One hundred and fifty phone lines will be available.

The plant, located at Oak Harbor, Ohio, shut down February 16 for refueling and maintenance. Inspections revealed a cavity in the top of the reactor pressure vessel head that was likely caused by corrosion from boric acid. The NRC sent an Augmented Inspection Team to the site to gather information regarding the degradation to the reactor pressure vessel head and issued a bulletin requesting prompt information from all of its pressurized water reactor licensees on vessel head inspections. An exit meeting to discuss the team's findings was held in Oak Harbor, Ohio, on April 5.

To help keep the public informed of its activities, NRC has established a section on its web site where information about reactor pressure vessel head degradation is posted and updated, including press releases, correspondence with NRC licensees and other related documents. The web address is: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-experience/vessel-head-degradation.html>

###