



# NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

801 Warrenville Road

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Web Site: <http://www.nrc.gov>

No. III-02-062

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November 13, 2002

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## **NRC LESSONS LEARNED TASK FORCE TO DISCUSS FINDINGS AT PUBLIC MEETING NOVEMBER 20 IN OAK HARBOR, OHIO**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Lessons Learned Task Force will discuss the findings of its review of NRC activities associated with the reactor vessel head damage at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant in a public meeting November 20 in Oak Harbor, Ohio.

The meeting will be at 7 p.m. in the Oak Harbor High School Auditorium, 11661 West State Route 163, Oak Harbor. Members of the public are invited to participate in the meeting. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., displays and background materials will be available, and NRC staff members will be present for informal discussions with the public.

The Task Force report, which was issued in early October, is available on the NRC's web site: <http://www.nrc.gov>. Select "Davis-Besse" from the key topics menu; then select the "News and Correspondence" link where the report is posted.

The findings and recommendations of the task force are being evaluated by an NRC Senior Management Review Team. The team will then recommend to the NRC's Executive Director for Operations any changes to agency policies and practices to address the issues arising out of the task force's review. The recommendations are expected by the end of November.

On March 5 of this year workers at the Davis-Besse plant found a cavity, caused by boric acid corrosion, in the top of the reactor vessel during repair activities while the plant was shut down. The plant remains shut down for replacement of the reactor vessel head and for broad safety reviews and performance improvement activities.

The Lessons Learned Task Force was formed to review the full scope of NRC regulatory activities related to the Davis-Besse damage, including the agency inspection and assessment program, industry-wide generic activities, research work, and international practices. It was comprised of NRC staff members not previously associated with the oversight of the Davis-Besse plant. Art Howell, a senior manager at the NRC's Region IV Office in Texas, directed the effort. An official from the Ohio State Emergency Management Agency participated in the task force as an observer.

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