AREVA’s Digital Control System Enhances Reliability at Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

CHARLOTTE, N.C., June 29, 2016 – AREVA NP recently completed the installation of a digital control rod drive control system (DCRDCS) at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station in Oak Harbor, Ohio. This advanced system, which manages the control rods in a nuclear reactor, improves reliability and simplifies maintenance.

“Upgrading key systems, like the DCRDCS, is an important part of ensuring the operational excellence of the existing reactor fleet, and sustaining and advancing the U.S. nuclear energy industry,” said George Beam, senior vice president, Installed Base Services, AREVA Inc. “As operators pursue license renewals for their facilities, this system helps to eliminate certain age-related issues and supports safe, long-term operations.”

The DCRDCS precisely positions control rods in a reactor’s core to regulate power generation. The control logic in this modern digital system has triple module redundancy and includes multiple power supplies to reliably operate each control rod.

This is the fifth system successfully installed by AREVA. The DCRDCS system, which is made for pressurized water reactors, was custom designed and manufactured at AREVA’s facility in Lynchburg, Va.

Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station’s pressurized water reactor generates 900 megawatts of low-carbon electricity, representing 40 percent of the electricity used by residences, businesses and industries in northwestern Ohio.

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