



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

March 3, 2010

Mr. Christopher R. Costanzo
Vice President
NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, IA 52324-9785

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER
(05000331/2010001)**

Dear Mr. Costanzo:

On February 11, 2010, the NRC staff completed its performance review of Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC). Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2009. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only -- Security Information" will include the Security Cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, Duane Arnold Energy Center operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. By letter dated June 9, 2009, you were notified that plant performance was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC action matrix. This was due to a White finding in the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone. Plant performance for the first quarter of the assessment cycle was in the Licensee Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix. In the subsequent three quarters of the assessment cycle, plant performance was in the Regulatory Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix due to the White finding. The supplemental inspection (IP 95001) for this White finding has already been conducted. Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, including baseline and other infrequently conducted inspections, less those related to security, scheduled through June 30, 2011. We plan to conduct a special and infrequently performed inspection procedure, Inspection Procedure (IP) 60855.1, "Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants" as well. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last 9 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Kenneth Riemer at 630-829-9628 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Steven West, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-331; 72-032
License No. DPR-49

Enclosure: Duane Arnold Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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Letter to C. Costanzo from S. West dated March 3, 2010

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(05000331/2010001)

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Duane Arnold
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2010 - 06/30/2011

Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
Start	End			
		BI ENG - BIENNIAL HEAT SINK INSPECTION & TI-177		2
03/08/2010	03/12/2010	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
03/08/2010	03/26/2010	IP 2515/177	Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal & Containment Spray System	
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
05/17/2010	05/21/2010	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
		BI EP - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION / PI VERIFICATION		3
05/17/2010	05/21/2010	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
05/17/2010	05/21/2010	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
05/17/2010	05/21/2010	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Drill Participation	
05/17/2010	05/21/2010	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System	
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
06/14/2010	06/18/2010	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
06/14/2010	06/18/2010	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
06/14/2010	06/18/2010	IP 71151-BI01	Reactor Coolant System Activity	
06/14/2010	06/18/2010	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
06/14/2010	06/18/2010	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
		BI ENG - TRIENNIAL ENGINEERING PERM MODS/50.59		3
09/13/2010	10/01/2010	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
		BI OL - LIC. OPERATOR REQUAL PROGRAM EVALUATION		2
09/13/2010	09/17/2010	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
11/01/2010	11/05/2010	IP 2515/179	Verification of Licensee Responses to NRC Requirement for Inventories of Materials Tracked in NSTS	
11/01/2010	11/05/2010	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
11/01/2010	11/05/2010	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
		BI ENG - ENGINEERING INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
11/01/2010	11/19/2010	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
01/24/2011	01/28/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
01/24/2011	01/28/2011	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
01/24/2011	01/28/2011	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
		BI ENG - COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION		5
01/31/2011	03/04/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
		BI PI&R - BIENNIAL PI&R INSPECTION		3
03/07/2011	03/25/2011	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	

Duane Arnold
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2010 - 06/30/2011

Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
Start	End			
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
05/23/2011	05/27/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
05/23/2011	05/27/2011	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
		OL PREP - DUANE ARNOLD INIT PREP - 06/2011		3
06/06/2011	06/10/2011	W90245	OL - INITIAL EXAM - JUN/JUL 2011	
		OL EXAM - DUANE ARNOLD INIT EXAM - JUNE-JULY 2011		3
06/27/2011	07/08/2011	W90245	OL - INITIAL EXAM - JUN/JUL 2011	