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

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN -  
DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER  

Dear Mr. Costanzo:

On August 5, 2010, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Duane Arnold Energy Center. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. 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.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter at the Duane Arnold Energy Center was within the Licensee Response column of the NRC’s Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility.

While plant performance for the most recent quarter is within the Licensee Response column of the Action Matrix, there were safety significant inspection findings affecting the first three quarters of the assessment cycle. Plant performance for the first three quarters of the assessment period was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC action matrix. This was due to one White finding in the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone, which was effective in the 2nd quarter 2009. On December 15, 2009, the NRC completed a supplemental inspection pursuant to Inspection Procedure 95001, “Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area.”

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through December 31, 2011. 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 end-of-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 document 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/ By Gary L. Shear Acting For/

Steven West, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-331
License No. DPR-49

Enclosure: Duane Arnold Energy Center Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServe
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DISTRIBUTION:
See next page
Letter to C. Costanzo from S. West dated September 1, 2010

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER

DISTRIBUTION:
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RidsNrrDorILpi3-1 Resource
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DRPIII
DRSIII
Patricia Buckley
Tammy Tomczak
ROPreports Resource
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<th>Inspection Activity</th>
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<td>BI ENG</td>
<td>09/13/2010</td>
<td>10/01/2010</td>
<td>- MODIFICATIONS / 50.59 INSPECTION</td>
<td>Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications</td>
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<td>- ISFSI INSPECTION - SCHEDULE DEPENDENT</td>
<td>Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants</td>
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<td>BI RP</td>
<td>05/23/2011</td>
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This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities. This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.
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