

January 27, 2000

Mr. David Wilson
Vice President, Nuclear
Alliant Tower
200 First Street SE
P. O. Box 351
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0351

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF SECURITY UNRESOLVED ITEMS

Dear Mr. Wilson:

During recent security inspections, two unresolved items were identified. Both issues have been resolved by NRC Headquarters. Resolution of these issues are discussed below.

Section S.4 of Inspection Report No. 50-331/98018, dated December 16, 1998, identified an unresolved item pertaining to the minimum number of armed response personnel not being immediately available because they were used for compensatory posts outside of the protected area. Such incidents were logged by the security staff as security events, rather than reported to the NRC within one hour. The security plan allowed going below minimum manning levels for a specified period of time. This unresolved item consisted of two elements: (1) was the option identified in the security plan to reduce the number of armed responders for a designated period of time granted with the expectation that such an option would be used only for emergencies, illness, or catastrophic equipment failure, and (2) what are the reporting requirements when the required number of armed responders are not immediately available for response to a security contingency?

NRC Headquarters has concluded that contrary to the licensee's NRC-approved security plan commitments, armed response personnel were assigned to compensatory posts that did not require an armed individual, and therefore the licensee did not maintain the minimum number of immediately available armed personnel required by the security plan. The unavailability of the armed person(s) was caused by the licensee's actions, not the requirement that the compensatory post be armed. Additionally, instances when this occurred should have been reported to the NRC within one hour because of the significance of the issue and the compensatory posts were not implemented within 10 minutes after discovery. For such situations, NRC Headquarters has determined that compensatory measures are not in effect until the called-in personnel have arrived and are available to respond to a security event. Finally, a provision of the security plan does not negate the reportability appropriate for the event. The type of report required is decided solely on the significance of the event.

The second unresolved item pertained to the need to test security force members for glaucoma. Section S5.b of Inspection Report No. 50-331/99006, dated June 25, 1999, noted that the physical security examination standards specifically stated that glaucoma was a disqualifying factor unless certain criteria was met. However, security personnel were not tested for glaucoma during the physical examination, and no tests conducted during the physical examination would specifically indicate the presence of glaucoma. The unresolved item was if

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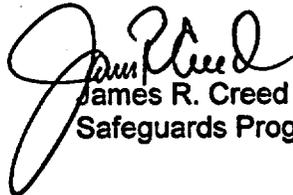
the licensee had to conduct tests for glaucoma when it is specifically identified as a potential disqualifying condition.

NRC Headquarters has concluded that medical testing for glaucoma must be conducted to determine the absence of the eye disease. It would be expected that the vision testing would be conducted by someone qualified to administer the test (e.g. licensed physician) and that individual could properly determine the most appropriate method for testing security officers depending on such factors as age and medical history.

This information is being provided so your security staff can initiate actions to correct the deficiencies noted. Both issues will be further reviewed during the next scheduled security inspection and appropriate enforcement action, if any, will be determined at that time.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS).

Sincerely,



James R. Creed
Safeguards Program Manager

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

- cc: E. Protsch, Executive Vice President -
Energy Delivery, Alliant;
President, IES Utilities, Inc.
- Richard L. Anderson, Plant Manager
- K. Peveler, Manager, Regulatory Performance
- State Liaison Officer
- Chairperson, Iowa Utilities Board

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