September 22, 2000

Mr. Michael B. Sellman, President Nuclear Management Company, LLC 700 First Street Hudson, WI 54016

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER - REPORT ON NRC STAFF AUDIT OF

RESOLUTION OF ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN NRC BULLETIN 96-03

(TAC NO. MA0704)

Dear Mr. Sellman:

From March 29 to 31, 1999, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff conducted an audit of the resolution of issues identified in NRC Bulletin 96-03, "Potential Plugging of Emergency Core Cooling Suction Strainers by Debris in Boiling-Water Reactors" at Nuclear Management Company's (NMC, or the licensee) Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC). Staff from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) assisted the NRC staff in this audit. This audit included the design and analysis of the new emergency core cooling system (ECCS) suction strainers installed at DAEC. These new strainers were designed for DAEC by General Electric (GE) Company.

Our report on this audit consists of the enclosed NRC memorandum, "Report on Results of Staff Audit Conducted on October 4-6, 1999, of Resolution of Issues Identified in NRC Bulletin 96-03," and LANL report, "Los Alamos Technical Evaluation Report, On-Site Audit of DAEC Emergency Core Cooling System Strainer Blockage Resolution." These items are being withheld from public disclosure at this time because they may contain proprietary information.

We are providing you this NRC memorandum and LANL report for the purpose of identifying if they contain any proprietary information pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. Please respond within

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30 days of receipt of this letter supplying a bracketed non-proprietary copy and affidavit providing the reasons that you consider any of this information to be proprietary. This request was discussed with your staff and agreed to on September 12, 2000.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brenda L. Mozafari, Project Manager, Section 1 Project Directorate III Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-331

Enclosures: As Stated

cc w/o encls: See next page

M. Sellman - 2 -

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Brenda L. Mozafari, Project Manager, Section 1 Project Directorate III Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosures: As Stated

cc w/o encls: See next page

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Duane Arnold Energy Center

CC:

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