

July 31, 2001

Mr. Gary Van Middlesworth  
Site General Manager  
Duane Arnold Energy Center  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
3277 DAEC Road  
Palo, IA 52324-9785

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER - REGULATORY GUIDE 1.97, BOILING  
WATER REACTOR (BWR) NEUTRON FLUX MONITORING

Section 6.2 of Generic Letter 82-33 requested applicants and licensees to provide a report on their implementation of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.97. The BWR Owners' Group responded by submitting NEDO-31558, "Position on Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) RG 1.97, Revision 3, Requirements for Post-Accident Neutron Monitoring System," which proposed alternative criteria for neutron flux monitoring instrumentation in lieu of the Category 1 criteria stated in the RG. In a safety evaluation dated January 13, 1993, the NRC staff concluded that the criteria of NEDO-31558 was acceptable.

By letter dated April 7, 1993, the NRC staff requested that you review the Duane Arnold Energy Center neutron flux monitoring instrumentation against the criteria of NEDO-31558 and document the results of your review. Your letter dated June 4, 1993, provided the results of your review, including your justification for certain deviations and your commitments for future actions. By letter dated December 18, 1996, you confirmed that the committed actions were completed.

The NRC staff has completed its review of your submittals and determined that the deviations from NEDO-31558 specified in your submittals are acceptable. Therefore, the post-accident neutron flux monitoring instrumentation at the Duane Arnold Energy Center is an acceptable alternative to the guidance in RG 1.97.

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

cc: See next page

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Duane Arnold Energy Center

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