

September 24, 2001  
NG-01-1141

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Mail Station 0-P1-17  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Duane Arnold Energy Center  
Docket No: 50-331  
Op. License No: DPR-49  
Response to Request for Additional Information (RAI) to Technical  
Specification Change Request TSCR-042 – Extended Power Uprate (TAC  
# MB0543)

References: 1. NG-01-0655, "Response to Request for Additional Information (RAI)  
to Technical Specification Change Request TSCR-042 – Extended  
Power Uprate (TAC # MB0543)," dated May 11, 2001.  
2. NG-00-1900, "Technical Specification Change Request (TSCR-042):  
'Extended Power Uprate'," dated November 16, 2000.  
3. B. Mozafari (USNRC) to G. Van Middlesworth (NMC), "Duane  
Arnold Energy Center – Draft Safety Evaluation Regarding the  
Proposed Extended Power Uprate (TAC No. MB0543)," dated  
September 6, 2001.

File: A-117, SPF-189

Dear Sir(s):

On August 22, 2001, a follow-up conference call was held with the NRC Staff regarding the Reference 1 Response to Request for Additional Information (RAI) to our Reference 2 request to increase the authorized license power level of the Duane Arnold Energy Center. In this conference call we were specifically requested to supply the following information: 1) a statement of completion of Environmental Qualification (EQ) file upgrades to §50.49(d) auditability requirements; and, 2) status of completion of the planned Phase I modifications discussed in the Reference 1 RAI Response.

We have completed the EQ file revisions necessary to meet the auditability requirements of §50.49(d).

The Attachment to this letter provides a table containing the status of the Phase I modifications to the plant's electrical generation and distribution systems described in Reference 1.

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In addition, in our Reference 1 letter, we stated that a modification to replace the plant's Main Transformer was required in Phase II in order to increase plant output above the 1790 MWt (641 MWe) level. Further engineering review has found potential alternatives to replacing this transformer to achieve this higher power output. Consistent with our statements in the original application (Reference 2), any proposed modifications are considered to be "planned actions" on our part and not formal commitments to implement them exactly as described or on the proposed schedule. We make note of this because this originally-perceived limitation was discussed in the Staff's draft Safety Evaluation (Reference 3).

No new commitments are being made in this letter.

Please contact this office should you require additional information regarding this matter.

This letter is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

NUCLEAR MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC

By *Gary Van Middlesworth*  
Gary Van Middlesworth  
DAEC Site Vice-President

State of Iowa  
(County) of Linn

Signed and sworn to before me on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2001,

by *Gary Van Middlesworth*

*Nancy S. Franck*  
Notary Public in and for the State of Iowa



Commission Expires

Attachment: Status of Phase I Electrical Modifications for DAEC Extended Power  
Uprate

September 24, 2001

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cc: T. Browning  
R. Anderson (NMC) (w/o Attachment)  
B. Mozafari (NRC-NRR)  
J. Dyer (Region III)  
D. McGhee (State of Iowa)  
NRC Resident Office  
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Status of Phase I Electrical Modifications  
for DAEC Extended Power Uprate

Component	Phase I Modification	Status
a. Main Generator	Replacement of the hydrogen cooling units to improve heat removal capability	Completed Refuel Outage May, 2001
b. Main Transformer	New Oil Cooling Units and re-rating the transformer from 600 MVA to 660 MVA.	Completed Refuel Outage May, 2001
c. Switchyard	An ~ 40 MVAR capacitor bank to partially compensate for the loss of reactive power capability of the Main Generator.	Construction Underway. Construction & Testing Estimated for Completion – December, 2001. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Note: Administrative Controls have been implemented to maintain required VAR capacity in the interim until completion of final modification acceptance testing.