

2/17/76

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Docket No. 50-331

Iowa Electric Light & Power Company
 ATTN: Mr. Duane Arnold, President
 Security Building
 P. O. Box 351
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Gentlemen:

Amendment No. 17 to License No. DPR-49 issued on February 4, 1976, contained a typographical error which incorrectly referenced the number of fuel assemblies authorized as 364 rather than 368.

Please replace page 1 of the Safety Evaluation and page 1 of the Notice with the enclosed corrected pages.

George Lear, Chief
 Operating Reactors Branch #3
 Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:

1. Page 1 of the Safety Evaluation
2. Page 1 of the Notice

OFFICE	ORB#3	ORB#3	ORB#3			
SURNAME	CParrish	WPaulson:acr	GLear			
DATE	2/ 12 /76	2/ 12 /76	2/ 13 /76			

cc:

Jack R. Newman, Esquire
Harold F. Reis, Esquire
Lowenstein, Newman, Reis and Axelrad
1025 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

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523 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa . 50319

Mr. Dudley Henderson
Chairman, Linn County
Board of Supervisors
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406



SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 17 TO FACILITY LICENSE NO. DPR-49

IOWA ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
CENTRAL IOWA POWER COMPANY
CORN BELT POWER COOPERATIVE

DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER

DOCKET NO. 50-331

Introduction

By letter dated May 30, 1975, and supplement dated January 8, 1976, Iowa Electric Light and Power Company (IELP) requested an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-49 that would permit reloading and operating the Duane Arnold Energy Center with Reload 1 fuel consisting of 8x8 fuel assemblies manufactured by the General Electric Company. By a telephone call on January 26, 1976, IELP requested permission to load unirradiated Reload 1 fuel assemblies into the Duane Arnold reactor prior to the completion of the NRC staff's evaluation of operation with the Reload 1 fuel. Since the present Technical Specifications state that the core shall consist of not more than 368 fuel assemblies of 49 fuel rods each, a Technical Specification change has been proposed to establish that the reactor core shall consist of not more than 368 fuel assemblies of either 49 (7x7) or 63 (8x8) fuel rods each. Therefore, this evaluation is limited to the considerations involved in loading the facility with 8x8 fuel assemblies.

Our review of the licensees' proposed Technical Specifications regarding operation with 8x8 fuel assemblies has not been completed. Our evaluation of operation with 8x8 fuel will be the subject of a separate safety evaluation.

Evaluation

The NRC staff has evaluated the May 30, 1975 submittal and supplement dated January 8, 1976, and has determined that the nuclear design parameters of the 8x8 fuel assemblies are similar to the 7x7 fuel assemblies previously loaded in the Duane Arnold Energy Center and other boiling water reactors. The calculational methods previously used to predict the nuclear characteristics of the 7x7 fuel assemblies currently in use have been applied to the 8x8 assemblies and are considered adequately conservative to provide assurance that the 8x8 fuel can be accurately described as neutronically similar to the 7x7 assemblies. Consequently, there are no differences in the safety considerations associated with the loading of 8x8 fuel assemblies.

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-331

IOWA ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
CENTRAL IOWA POWER COOPERATIVE
CORN BELT POWER COOPERATIVE

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY
OPERATING LICENSE

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued Amendment No. 17 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-49 issued to Iowa Electric Light and Power Company, Central Iowa Power Cooperative, and Corn Belt Power Cooperative, which revised Technical Specifications for operation of the Duane Arnold Energy Center, located in Linn County, Iowa. The amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

The amendment incorporates a design feature change by specifying that the core shall consist of not more than 368 fuel assemblies of either 49 or 63 fuel rods each, and thereby authorizes loading of 8x8 fuel assemblies (63 fuel rods each) into the reactor.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment. This amendment is a portion of the proposed amendment noticed in the Federal Register on August 15, 1975 (40 F.R. 34485). No request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene has been filed in connection with the Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment. The remaining