

December 17, 1993

Mr. Lee Liu
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer
Iowa Electric Light and Power Company
Post Office Box 351
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Dear Mr. Liu:

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (TAC NO. M87128)

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This assessment relates to your application dated July 28, 1993, for amendment to the Duane Arnold Energy Center Technical Specifications to revise the limitations on concentrations of radioactive material released in liquid effluents and the limitations on the dose rate resulting from radioactive material released in gaseous effluents. This change concerns the monitoring, reporting, and record retention requirements and reflects the relocation of the prior 10 CFR 20.106 requirements to the new 10 CFR 20.1302.

The original of this assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Robert M. Pulsifer, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:
Environmental Assessment

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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Steve Hom change
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Mr. Lee Liu
Iowa Electric Light and Power Company Duane Arnold Energy Center

cc:

Jack Newman, Esquire
Kathleen H. Shea, Esquire
Newman and Holtzinger
1615 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Chairman, Linn County
Board of Supervisors
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Iowa Electric Light and Power Company
ATTN: David L. Wilson
Plant Superintendent, Nuclear
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, Iowa 52324

Mr. John F. Franz, Jr.
Vice President, Nuclear
Duane Arnold Energy Center
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, Iowa 52324

Mr. Keith Young
Manager, Nuclear Licensing
Duane Arnold Energy Center
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, Iowa 52324

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspector's Office
Rural Route #1
Palo, Iowa 52324

Regional Administrator, Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Mr. Stephen N. Brown
Utilities Division
Iowa Department of Commerce
Lucas Office Building, 5th Floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONIOWA ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANYDUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTERDOCKET NO. 50-331ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NRF-49, issued to the Iowa Electric Light and Power Company (the licensee), for operation of the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC), located in Linn County, Iowa.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action

The proposed amendment would consist of revisions to 10 CFR Part 20 references to recognize the new section numbers, revise definitions to ensure consistency with 10 CFR Part 20, and change administrative controls for reporting and recordkeeping to maintain compliance with the new Part 20. The change would revise the limitations on concentrations of radioactive material released in liquid effluents and the limitations on the dose rate resulting from radioactive material released in gaseous effluents and reflect the relocation of the prior 10 CFR 20.106 requirements to the new 10 CFR 20.1302. These changes are in response to the licensee's application for amendment dated July 28, 1993, implementing the new 10 CFR Part 20.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is needed in order to retain operational flexibility consistent with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix I, concurrent with the implementation of the revised 10 CFR Part 20.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed revision, in regards to the actual release rates as referenced in the Technical Specifications (TS) as a dose rate to the maximally exposed member of the public, will not increase the types or amounts of effluents that may be released offsite, nor increase individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposures. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed changes do not affect nonradiological effluents and have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

Alternative to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment to the TS, any alternative to the amendment will have either no significantly different environmental impact or will have greater environmental impact. The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts as a result of plant operation.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of the Duane Arnold Energy Center, dated March 1973.

Agencies and persons consulted

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated July 28, 1993, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC and at the Cedar Rapids Public Library, 500 1st Street, S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 52401.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 17th day of December 1993

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original signed by Robert M. Pulsifer

Robert M. Pulsifer, Acting Director
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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12/17/93

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