

May 24, 2006

Mr. Gary Van Middlesworth
Vice President
Duane Arnold Energy Center
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, Iowa 52324-9785

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION RELATED TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO REVISE
THE SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EMERGENCY DIESEL
GENERATORS TO PROVIDE MORE MARGIN TO THE ACCEPTANCE
CRITERION (TAC NO. MC8343)

Dear Mr. Van Middlesworth:

Your letter of September 16, 2005, submitted a proposed amendment to revise the surveillance requirements for the emergency diesel generators to provide more margin to the acceptance criterion at the Duane Arnold Energy Center.

We are reviewing this information, and find that we need additional information as shown in the enclosed request for additional information (RAI). Telephone conference calls were held on May 3, 2006, and May 18, 2006, to discuss this RAI. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requests your response by June 16, 2006. Please contact me at (301) 415-2928 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Deirdre W. Spaulding, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-331

Enclosure:
RAI

cc w/encl: See next page

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Vice President
Duane Arnold Energy Center
3277 DAEC Road
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Dear Mr. Van Middlesworth:

Your letter of September 16, 2005, submitted a proposed amendment to revise the surveillance requirements for the emergency diesel generators to provide more margin to the acceptance criterion.

We are reviewing this information, and find that we need additional information as shown in the enclosed request for additional information (RAI). Telephone conference calls were held on May 3, 2006, and May 18, 2006, to discuss this RAI. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requests your response by June 16, 2006. Please contact me at (301) 415-2928 if you have questions.

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Deirdre W. Spaulding, Project Manager */RA/*
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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
RELATED TO THREE RELIEF REQUESTS ASSOCIATED WITH
THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO REVISE THE SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATORS TO PROVIDE MORE MARGIN
TO THE ACCEPTANCE CRITERION
DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER
DOCKET NO. 50-331

Your letter of September 16, 2005, submitted a proposed amendment to revise the surveillance requirements for the emergency diesel generators (EDGs) to provide more margin to the acceptance criterion. You stated that the proposed change in EDG testing acceptance criteria is fully consistent with Safety Guide 9, "Selection of Diesel Generator Set Capacity for Standby Power Supplies." Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, Section 1.8.9, states that "the voltage will recover to 90 percent of rated voltage after each step-load change in 1.3 sec (26.0 percent of load sequence time interval) or less and to 98 percent of rated frequency within 3.91 second (78.2 percent of load sequence time interval)." However, Safety Guide 9 recommends that "voltage should be restored to within 10 percent of nominal and frequency should be restored to within 2 percent of nominal in less than 40 percent of each load-sequence time interval." Thus, the frequency is not restored to within 2 percent of nominal until the motors have almost accelerated to rated speed.

To complete its review of the submittal, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff requests the following additional information. Please provide justification for using a greater percentage of the time interval to restore the proposed frequency within 2 percent of nominal (60 Hz). Also, please confirm that problems regarding meeting the EDG testing acceptance criteria have not been observed in past EDG performance.

ENCLOSURE

Duane Arnold Energy Center

cc:

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February 1, 2006