

June 21, 2006

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

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER - CORRECTION TO SUBJECT LINE OF
COVER PAGE FOR THIRD 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION
PROGRAM PLAN REQUEST (TAC NO. MC8165)

Dear Mr. Van Middlesworth:

On May 30, 2006, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission granted relief to FPL Energy Duane Arnold pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i) for Duane Arnold's third 10-year Inservice Inspection program for attachment welds VSW-0AZ, VSW-90AZ, VSW-180AZ, and VSW-270AZ.

Through a typographical error, the subject line of the cover letter incorrectly indicated "DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER - THIRD 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM PLAN REQUEST FOR RELIEF TO EXTEND THE THIRD 10-YEAR INSERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL FOR THE EXAMINATION OF WELDS VLA-001 VLA-002 (TAC NO. MC8165)."

The correct subject line is "DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER - THIRD 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM PLAN REQUEST FOR RELIEF RELATED TO THE EXAMINATION OF WELDS VSW-0AZ, VSW-90AZ, VSW-180AZ, AND VSW-270AZ (TAC NO. MC8165)."

The above correction to the subject line of the cover letter does not change the conclusions that were the basis for the granting of the subject relief.

G. Van Middlesworth

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If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact your project manager, Ms. D. Spaulding of my staff at (301)415-2928.

Sincerely,

/RA/

L. Raghavan, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-331

Enclosure:
Corrected Cover Page

cc w/encl: See next page

G. Van Middlesworth

- 2 -

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DATE	6/20/2006	6/20/2006	6/21/2006

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May 30, 2006

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

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER - THIRD 10-YEAR INTERVAL
INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM PLAN REQUEST FOR RELIEF
RELATED TO THE EXAMINATION OF WELDS VSW-0AZ, VSW-90AZ, VSW-
180AZ, AND VSW-270AZ (TAC NO. MC8165)

Dear Mr. Van Middlesworth:

By letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated August 3, 2005, Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC) (the former licensee), for Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC), submitted a request for relief from performing a complete coverage examination of the reactor vessel stabilizers' attachment welds, VSW-0AZ, VSW-90AZ, VSW-180AZ, and VSW-270AZ, in accordance with the existing DAEC Inservice Inspection (ISI) Program. (On January 27, 2006, the NRC issued Amendment No. 260 that reflected the transfer of the license to FPL Energy Duane Arnold, LLC).

The NRC staff has completed its review of the submittal. Our safety evaluation (SE) concludes that the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code required examinations are impractical to perform at DAEC due to physical obstructions, and that imposition of this requirement would cause a significant burden on the licensee. Furthermore, the NRC staff concludes that the surface examinations performed to the extent practical provide reasonable assurance of the structural integrity of the subject welds. Additionally, the NRC staff has determined that granting relief pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i) is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property, or the common defense, and security and is otherwise in the public interest giving due consideration to the burden upon the licensee that could result if the requirements were imposed on the facility.

Therefore, for attachment welds VSW-0AZ, VSW-90AZ, VSW-180AZ, and VSW-270AZ, relief is granted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i) for the third 10-year ISI program. All other requirements of the ASME Code, Section XI for which relief has not been specifically requested remain applicable, including a third party review by the Authorized Nuclear Inservice Inspector.

Enclosure

Duane Arnold Energy Center

cc:

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