May 7, 2009

Mr. Jerome Thompson, Interim State
Historic Preservation Officer
State Historical Society of Iowa
600 East Locust Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Thompson:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application to renew the operating license for the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC), which is located near Cedar Rapids, IA. The DAEC is operated by FPL Energy Duane Arnold, LLC. The application for renewal was submitted by FPL Energy Duane Arnold, LLC on September 30, 2008, pursuant to NRC requirements at Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54). Neither operational, refurbishment, nor major replacement activities are planned as a result of the proposed license renewal action that will impact previously undisturbed land.

The NRC has established that, as part of the staff review of any nuclear power plant license renewal action, a site-specific supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) to its Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG-1437, will be prepared under the provisions of 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). In accordance with 36 CFR 800.8, the SEIS will include analyses of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. A draft SEIS is scheduled for publication in January 29, 2010, and will be provided to you for review and comment.

On June 15, 2009, we plan to conduct an audit of the DAEC site. You and your staff are invited to attend this audit. Your office will also receive a copy of the draft SEIS along with a request for comments. The anticipated publication date for the draft SEIS is January 29, 2010. If you would like to provide any comments regarding the scope of this SEIS, please provide them by June 1, 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Eccleston, Environmental Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-8537 or by email at Charles.Eccleston@nrc.gov, or Maurice Heath at 301-415-3137 or by e-mail at Maurice.Heath@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David L. Pelton, Chief
Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-331

Enclosures:
1. Duane Arnold Site Description
2. Duane Arnold Site Boundary Map
3. Duane Arnold 6-Mile Vicinity Map
4. Duane Arnold Transmission System

cc w/encls: See next page

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ADAMS Accession Number: **ML091210015**

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NAME	C.Eccleston	S.Figueroa	D.Pelton
DATE	05/07/09	05/07/09	05/07/09

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to Jerome Thompson from David L. Pelton dated May 7, 2009

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Duane Arnold Energy Center

cc:

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Palo, IA 52324-9785

Duane Arnold Energy Center Site Description

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) site is located on the western side of a north-south reach of the Cedar River, approximately 2.5 miles north-northeast of the Village of Palo, Iowa, in Linn County (T-84N, R-8W, Sections 9 and 10). The closest city is Cedar Rapids with its outer boundary being 8 miles to the southeast. The site is approximately 500 acres in size, on a flat strip of land running northeast and parallel to the Cedar River. The distance from the plant stack to the nearest site boundary is approximately 440 meters (m). A paved county highway provides access to the site.

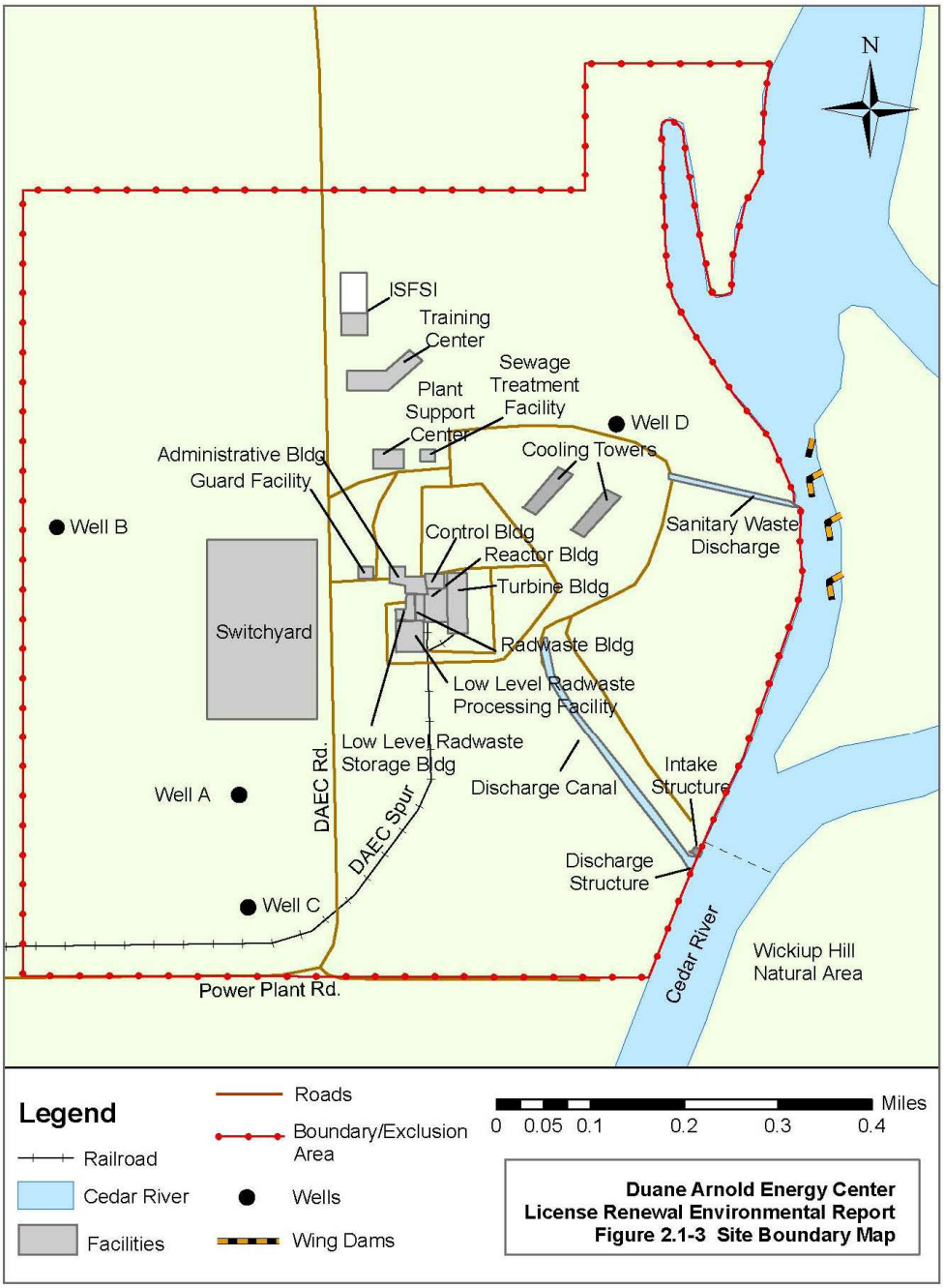
TOPOGRAPHY

A relatively flat plain approximate 750 feet (ft) above mean sea level (msl) extends from the site toward the village of Palo on the southwest, and most of this land is now being farmed. At Palo, the elevation is 747 to 750 ft. Across the river from the site, the land rises from an elevation of 750 ft to an elevation of about 900 ft within a horizontal distance of approximately 2000 ft. These slopes are rather heavily wooded with only an occasional field or pasture dotting the landscape. Beyond this rise, the land is gently rolling farmland. To the northwest, the land rises to an elevation of 850 ft. Adjacent to the east is another heavily wooded low area that constitutes the current flood plain. This area is flat and extends approximately 1500 ft to the west bank of the river. The general topographical features in this portion of the Cedar River consist of broad valleys with relatively narrow flood plains. In many places, these broad valleys merge almost imperceptibly into the adjacent uplands. Away from the immediate vicinity of the river, the land is gently rolling farmland.

TRANSMISSION LINE CORRIDORS

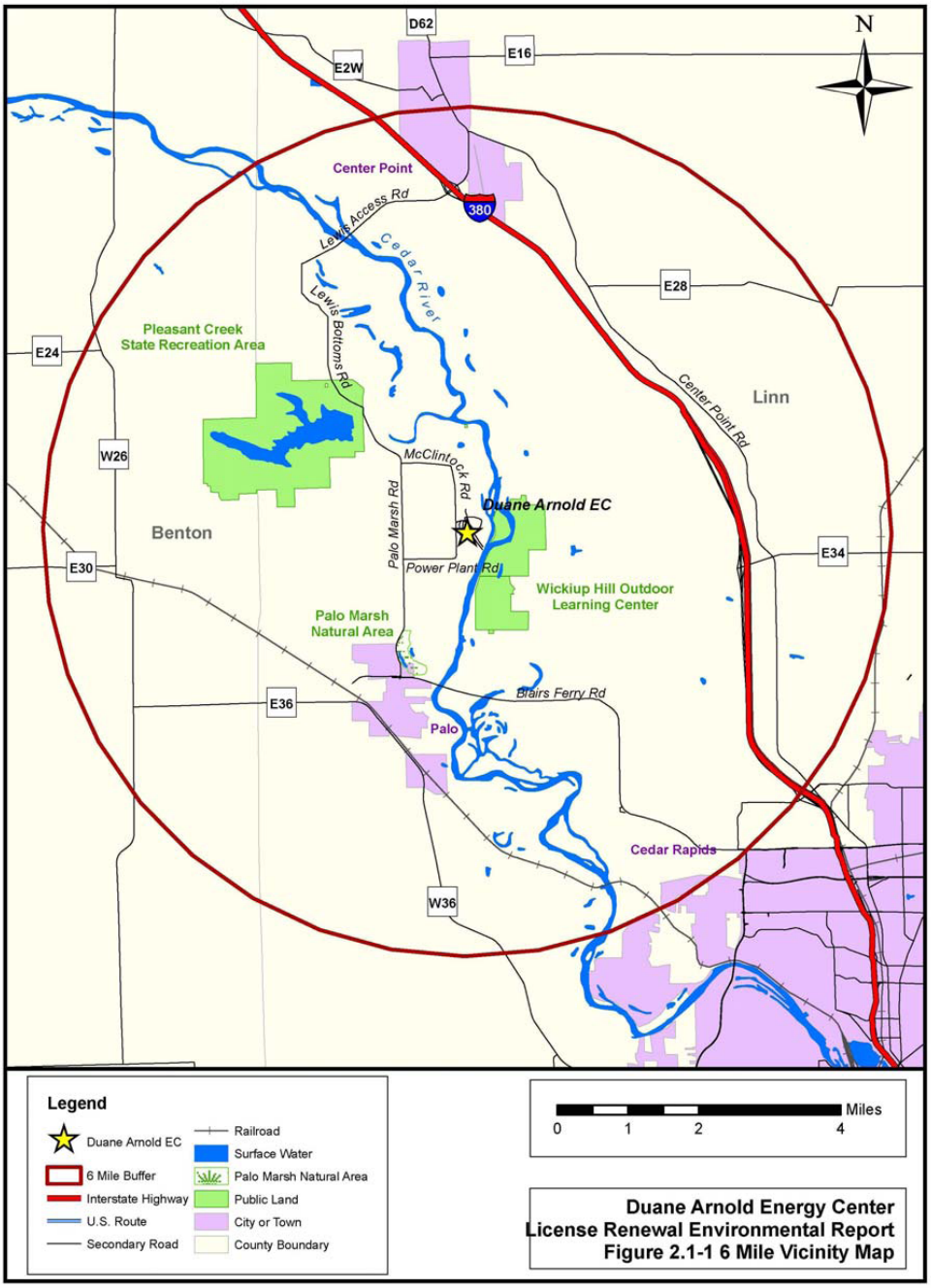
Five transmission-line systems extend westward in a 665-ft wide corridor from the southwest edge of the plant site for a distance of one mile to a north-south county road. Near this road, two 161-kV lines depart and continue within a 100-ft basic width corridor (generally narrower along railroad and public right-of way) in a southerly direction. At the village of Palo, one of these lines follows a railroad right-of-way in a southeasterly direction to the Sixth Street substation in Cedar Rapids. The total distance of this line is 11.2 miles. The other 161-kV line continues in a southerly direction west of Cedar Rapids and then eastward, via Fairfax, to the Bertram substation. The total distance is 28 miles. The remaining 161-kV line and two 345-kV lines continue along a 500-ft wide corridor for a distance of 1.7 miles beyond the county road in a westerly direction. There, one 345 line turns south to the Hills substation, the other 345 line turns north to the Hazelton substation. The 161-kV line continues for a distance of 16 miles to the Garrison substation and then an additional 30 miles to the Washburn substation. A sixth transmission line leaves the plant site in a generally easterly direction, crosses the Cedar River, and continues for a distance of 8 miles to the Hiawatha substation.

Duane Arnold Site Boundary Map



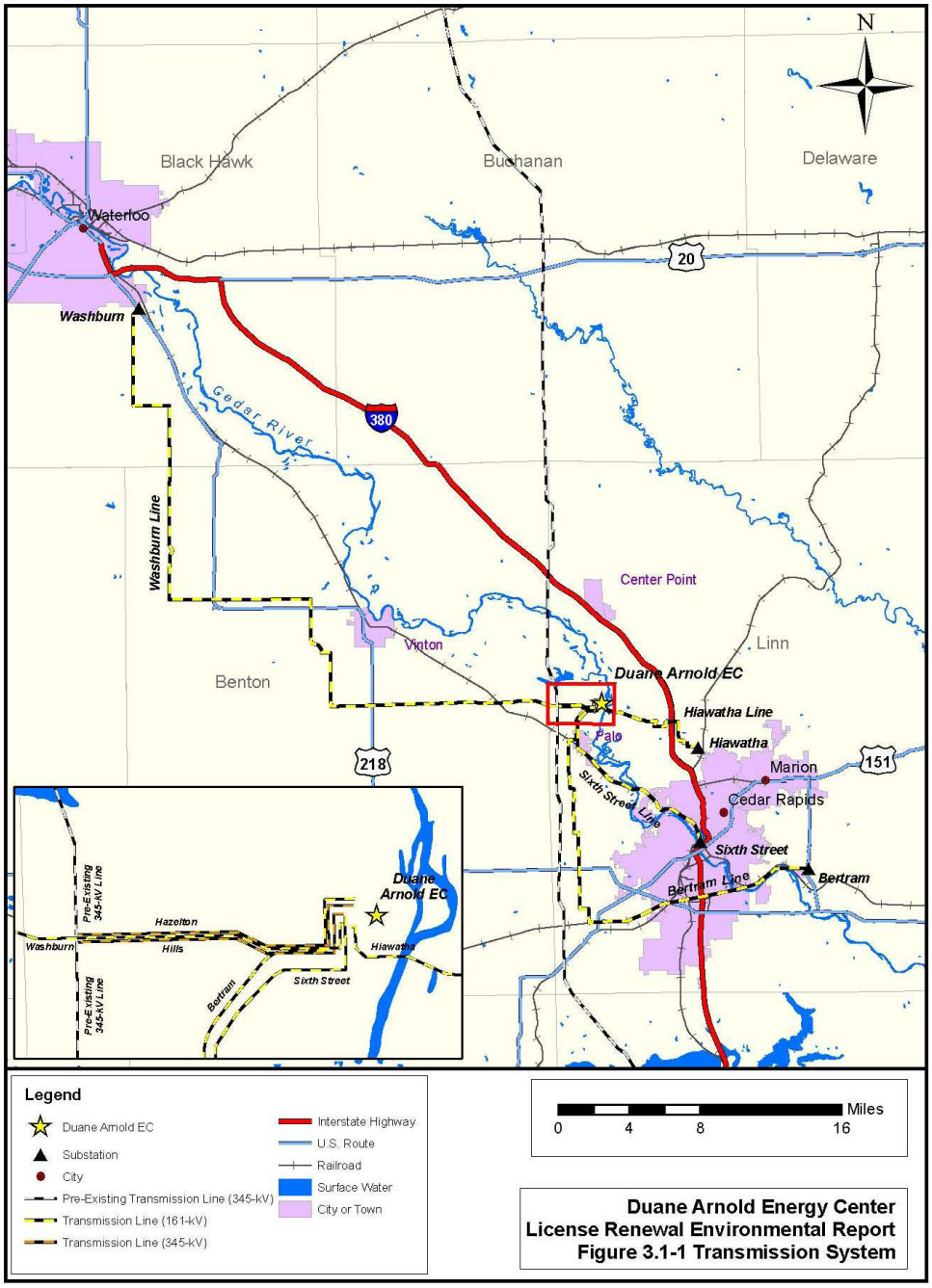
ENCLOSURE 2

Duane Arnold Site 6-Mile Vicinity Map



ENCLOSURE 3

Duane Arnold Transmission System



ENCLOSURE 4