



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 25, 2010

Mr. Christopher R. Costanzo
Vice President
Duane Arnold Energy Center
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, IA 52324-9785

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER – NEXTERA ENERGY DUANE ARNOLD,
LLC'S STATUS OF DECOMMISSIONING FUNDING ASSURANCE FOR
DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER (TAC NO. ME0516)

Dear Mr. Costanzo:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed the submittal, dated July 27, 2009 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML092110118), and supplemented on November 5, 2009 (ML093130065) and December 1, 2009 (ML093440059), outlining NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC's (NextEra) proposed plan of action to cover shortfalls in providing decommissioning funding assurance and/or decommissioning funding realized in the Duane Arnold Energy Center (Duane Arnold) Biennial Decommissioning Funding Report that was submitted on March 27, 2009 (ML090900306). Based on the NRC staff's analysis of the Biennial Decommissioning Funding Report, the NRC staff estimated a projected shortfall in decommissioning funding assurance for Duane Arnold of \$33.5 million.

Subsequently, on November 5, 2009, NextEra submitted the updated market value of \$232.7 million for the decommissioning trust fund for Duane Arnold, as of September 30, 2009. On December 1, 2009, NextEra provided an updated SAFSTOR method for radiological decommissioning of Duane Arnold. The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's plan and determined that the licensee provides reasonable assurance of adequate decommissioning funding at the time permanent termination of operations is expected. Accordingly, the NRC staff concludes that no further action is required at this time to demonstrate adequate decommissioning funding assurance, according to NRC standards, for Duane Arnold.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Karl Feintuch", is positioned above the typed name.

Karl Feintuch, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-331

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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Vice President
Duane Arnold Energy Center
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Sincerely,
/RA/

Karl Feintuch, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
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