



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

March 4, 2011

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

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER
(REPORT 05000331/2011001)**

Dear Mr. Costanzo:

On February 17, 2011, the NRC completed its end-of-cycle performance review of the Duane Arnold Energy Center. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

The NRC determined that overall, the Duane Arnold Energy Center operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2012. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

In addition to the ROP baseline, inspections are planned for Temporary Instruction 179, "Inventories of Material Tracked in the Nuclear Source Tracking System."

C. Costanzo

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's Rules of Practice, a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Ken Riemer at 630-829-9628 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Steven West, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-331
License No. DPR-49

Enclosure: Duane Arnold Energy Center Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServe

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Letter to C. Costanzo from K. Riemer dated March 4, 2011

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(REPORT 05000331/2011001)

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Duane Arnold
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2011 - 06/30/2012

Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
Start	End			
		BI ENG - COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION		6
01/31/2011	03/04/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
		BI PI&R - BIENNIAL PI&R INSPECTION		5
04/11/2011	04/29/2011	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	
		OL PREP - DUANE ARNOLD INIT PREP - 06/2011		3
06/06/2011	06/10/2011	W90245	OL - INITIAL EXAM - JUN/JUL 2011 - DAEC	
		OL EXAM - DUANE ARNOLD INIT EXAM - 06/2011		3
06/27/2011	07/08/2011	W90245	OL - INITIAL EXAM - JUN/JUL 2011 - DAEC	
		BI EP - EP ROUTINE INSPECTION / PI VERIFICATION		1
08/08/2011	08/12/2011	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
08/08/2011	08/12/2011	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
08/08/2011	08/12/2011	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
08/08/2011	08/12/2011	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
08/15/2011	08/19/2011	IP 2515/179	Verification of Licensee Responses to NRC Requirement for Inventories of Materials Tracked in NSTS	
08/15/2011	08/19/2011	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
08/15/2011	08/19/2011	IP 71151-BI01	Reactor Coolant System Activity	
08/15/2011	08/19/2011	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
08/15/2011	08/19/2011	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
		ISFSI - ISFSI INSPECTION - SCHEDULE DEPENDENT		2
09/01/2011	10/31/2011	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
11/28/2011	12/02/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
11/28/2011	12/02/2011	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
		BI ENG - FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION & BAG TRIP		3
01/09/2012	02/10/2012	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
02/06/2012	02/10/2012	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
		BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
04/30/2012	05/04/2012	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
		BI EP - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION / PI VERIFICATION		2
05/14/2012	05/18/2012	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
05/14/2012	05/18/2012	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
		BI ENG - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK INSPECTION		2
06/11/2012	06/15/2012	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	