

IOWA ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY

General Office

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

February 2, 1979

JAMES A. WALLACE
VICE PRESIDENT - GENERATION

Mr. James G. Keppler, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region III
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Re: Duane Arnold Energy Center
Subject: Response to IE Bulletin 78-14
File: A-101a

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This letter is in response to IE Bulletin 78-14 concerning Buna-N material applications in control rod scram systems and problems which have been experienced with this material as noted in General Electric SIL 128, Revision 1, Supplement 1.

We have reviewed this subject and have determined that the 178 CRD scram solenoid valves installed in the plant were rebuilt during the first two weeks of January, 1979 in accordance with the recommendations contained in GE SIL 128, Revision 1, Supplement 1 with new parts having a packaging date of January 1, 1977. The two backup scram valves, the two scram discharge volume vent and drain pilot valves and the one scram discharge volume test valve were all installed sometime during plant construction and no packaging dates could be identified. We presently plan to order replacement spare part kits for these valves as soon as possible and install the new parts when received. Due to the fact that none of the Buna-N parts removed from the 178 CRD scram solenoid valves were found to be deteriorated we feel adequate assurance is provided that the remaining five valves will continue to function acceptably until the new parts can be obtained and installed.

Based on recommendations received from General Electric Company, we presently plan to schedule replacement of the subject parts at five year intervals during refueling outages. This schedule should provide adequate assurance that the seven year service life is not exceeded.

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If you have any further questions do not hesitate to contact this office.

Very truly yours,



J. A. Wallace
Vice President-Generation

JAW/JVS/nf

cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Division of Reactor Operations Inspection
Washington, D. C. 20555