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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

OCT 8 1975

Iowa Electric Light and Power  
Company  
ATTN: Mr. Charles W. Sandford  
Executive Vice President  
Security Building  
P. O. Box 351  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

Docket No. 50-331

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. H. B. Kister of this office on September 22 and 23, 1975, of activities at the Duane Arnold Energy Center authorized by NRC Operating License No. DPR-49, and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. G. Hunt and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

A copy of our report of this inspection is enclosed and identifies the areas examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with plant personnel, and observations by the inspector.

No items of noncompliance with NRC requirements were identified within the scope of this inspection.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. If this report contains any information that you or your contractors believe to be proprietary, it is necessary that you make a written application to this office, within twenty days of your receipt of this letter, to withhold such information from public disclosure. Any such application must include a full statement of the reasons for which it is claimed that the

*[Handwritten signature]*

Iowa Electric Light and - 2 -  
Power Company

OCT 8 1975

information is proprietary, and should be prepared so the proprietary information identified in the application is contained in a separate part of the document. Unless we receive an application to withhold information or are otherwise contacted within the specified time period, the written material identified in this paragraph will be placed in the Public Document Room.

No reply to this letter is necessary; however, should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be glad to discuss them with you.

Sincerely yours,

Gaston Fiorelli, Chief  
Reactor Operations Branch.

Enclosure:  
IE Inspection Rpt  
No. 050-331/75-14

bcc w/encl:  
PDR  
Local PDR  
NSIC  
TIC

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGION III

Report of Operations Inspection

IE Inspection Report No. 050-331/75-14

Licensee: Iowa Electric Light and Power Company  
Security Building  
P. O. Box 351  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

Duane Arnold Energy Center  
Palo, Iowa

License No. DPR-49  
Category: C

Type of Licensee: BWR (GE) 538 MWe

Type of Inspection: Routine, Unannounced

Dates of Inspection: September 22 and 23, 1975

Principal Inspector: H. B. Kister

*RC Knop for*

10/7/75  
(Date)

Accompanying Inspector: None

Other Accompanying Personnel: None

Reviewed By: R. C. Knop  
Senior Inspector  
Reactor Operations Branch

*RC Knop*

10/7/75  
(Date)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Inspection Summary

Inspection on September 22 and 23, (75-14): Review of Contingency Plan Operations during the Extended Strike. No items of noncompliance noted.

Enforcement Items

None identified.

Licensee Action on Previously Identified Enforcement Items

Not reviewed.

Other Significant Items

A. Systems and Components

The "B" Condensate Pump has been returned to service after extended maintenance.

B. Facility Items

None.

C. Managerial Items

Plant continues to operate using supervisory personnel. No progress has been made toward settlement of the strike.

D. Noncompliance Identified and Corrected by the Licensee

None reported.

E. Deviations

None.

F. Status of Previously Reported Unresolved Items

Not reviewed.

### Management Interview

The inspector conducted a management interview with Messr. Hunt and Hammond on September 23, 1975. The following matters were discussed:

- A. The inspector stated that he had reviewed the continued implementation of the Contingency Operations Plan. The review included plant staffing, plant operations, operator proficiency under existing working conditions, surveillance testing, compliance with limiting conditions for operation and plant housekeeping. (Paragraph 2, Report Details)

The inspector commented that based on observations and review of selected records the plant is continuing to be operated in accordance with its license. The inspector further noted that plant housekeeping in the areas observed had improved since the previous inspection.

The licensee stated that they were satisfied with the performance of the staff, however, efforts were being made to reduce the number of hours worked where possible. Voluntary days off have been offered and additional personnel were being trained to assist in the non-licensed areas.

The inspector asked if revisions were being made to the Contingency Operations Plan as changes occurred and were the changes being approved by the Plant Operations Committee. The licensee stated that changes were being made and the Plant Operations Committee would approve all changes. This item will be reviewed during a subsequent inspection.

- B. The inspector stated that he had noted an Emergency Service Water Pump was being run continuously which is not the normal mode of operation. In response to questions the licensee indicated that operations of the HPCI Room cooler was necessary to maintain ambient temperature in the HPCI Room. This was due to an inadequate normal ventilation system. In a subsequent telephone conversation the licensee agreed that the ventilation problem was reportable as an unusual event and that a report would be submitted within 30 days. (Paragraph 2.g, Report Details)

## REPORT DETAILS

### 1. Persons Contacted

#### a. Site

G. Hunt, Chief Engineer  
E. Hammond, Asst. Chief Engineer  
D. Moen, Reactor and Plant Performance Engineer  
J. Weeds, Results Engineer  
B. York, Operations Supervisor  
R. Zook, Shift Supervising Engineer  
D. Minecek, Shift Supervising Engineer  
C. Vondra, Shift Supervising Engineer  
D. Teply, Shift Supervising Engineer  
D. Kalavitos, Shift Supervising Engineer  
J. Vinquist, Electrical Maintenance Supervisor

#### b. Corporate Office

H. Rehaur, Chairman, Safety Committee

### 2. Plant Operations

The inspector reviewed selected aspects of plant operations and the following comments are noted.

- a. Control Room manning was found to be in accordance with the Contingency Operations Plan and Technical Specification.
- b. The inspector interviewed selected plant personnel to ascertain the effect of the existing working conditions on their ability to function proficiently including the projected effect should the strike continue for a long period of time. The personnel interviewed expressed confidence that they could continue functioning adequately for a reasonable period of time. In addition, licensee management stated that with the one extra licensed operator, time off on a voluntary basis was available, and that additional personnel were being trained to assume responsibilities in the non-licensed areas of plant operations. Also, efforts were being made toward reducing maintenance personnel working hours to ten during the week and eight hours on weekends including one day off.
- c. The inspector reviewed the Shift Engineer's log and the plant operating log book for the period of September 6-22, 1975. No significant problems were noted.

- d. Selected surveillance test records for tests performed during the period of September 7-16 were reviewed for adequacy and completeness. No significant problems were noted.
  - e. The inspector reviewed selected Plant Operations and Safety Committee meeting minutes to assure that the committees were functioning as required by the Technical Specifications. No problems were noted.
  - f. The inspector conducted a tour of accessible areas of the plant and noted that improvements in housekeeping had been attained since the previous inspection.
  - g. During observation of Control Room activities the inspector noted that one of the Emergency Service Water pumps was running. The normal mode of operation is secured and in "Auto" initiation. A caution tag on the pump controller stated that the pump must be kept running. When questioned, the licensee stated that due to inadequate ventilation in the HPCI Room, the HPCI Room emergency cooler, which uses emergency service water had to be operated continuously in order to maintain ambient temperature below the HPCI Equipment Room Hi Temperature switch settings. In a subsequent telephone conversation with the licensee it was agreed that the inadequate ventilation represented a possible design deficiency and was reportable. The licensee agreed to submit an unusual event report within 30 days.
3. Retraining plan for Returning Personnel

The inspector questioned the licensee regarding plans for turn-over of plant operations to returning personnel with particular interest in the depth of retraining to be conducted to bring personnel up to the required level. The licensee stated that only some preliminary thinking had been given to this area. However, it was acknowledged by the licensee that a plan should be formulated soon. The inspector suggested that a plan for parallel manning for some period of time be considered as part of the evolution. The licensee acknowledged the inspector's suggestion.