

*Central Files*

Iowa Electric Light and Power Company  
March 20, 1980  
LDR-80-91

LARRY D. ROOT  
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT  
NUCLEAR GENERATION

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

Subject: Loss of Charcoal from Standard Type II,  
2 Inch Tray Adsorber Cells

Reference: IE Bulletin No. 80-03

File: A-101a, Bulletin 80-03

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This letter is in response to the subject bulletin concerning the potential for loss of charcoal from ventilation system tray type charcoal adsorber cells. Our review has determined that most of the charcoal units at the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) are deep bed, rather than tray type, units which are not subject to the concerns raised in IE Bulletin 80-03. The only tray type adsorber cell units at DAEC are the control building standby filter units.

The control building standby filter units include carbon adsorber filter (tray-type) Barnebey Cheney Company Series FC units. The filter trays are spot welded every one-to-two inches to the housing structure rather than riveted construction as described in the subject bulletin. These filter units were visually inspected and leak rate tested by Nuclear Containment Systems, Inc. on March 14, 1980 in accordance with ANSI-N510 "Testing of Nuclear Air Cleaning Systems". The visual inspection of the filter housing and adsorber cells revealed no indication of charcoal loss or adsorber cell/filter housing deformation. The leak rate testing determined that the filter efficiency is 99.99%. This would further indicate that any loss of charcoal and/or channeling is minimal.

Based upon the DAEC filter and adsorber cell designs employed and verification by recent visual inspection and leak rate testing

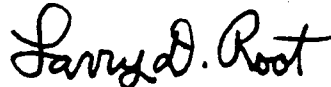
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that charcoal loss is negligible in the tray-type adsorber cells, we have determined that the potential charcoal loss problems discussed in the subject bulletin do not exist at DAEC.

Very truly yours,



Larry D. Root  
Assistant Vice President  
Nuclear Generation

LDR/DWT/n

cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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