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 AUTH. NAME: AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 MCGAUGHY, R.W. Iowa Electric Light & Power Co.
 RECIP. NAME: RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 DENTON, H. Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Director

SUBJECT: Responds to Generic Ltr 83-41 re number of times emergency diesel generators subj to starts w/o prelubrication & warmup from 821201 to 831201. No fast cold start occurred during ref time period.

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Iowa Electric Light and Power Company

February 3, 1984
NG-84-0058

Mr. Harold Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Subject: Duane Arnold Energy Center
Docket No. 50-331
Op. License No: DPR-49
Response to Generic Letter 83-41
Fast Cold Starts of Diesel Generators

Dear Mr. Denton:

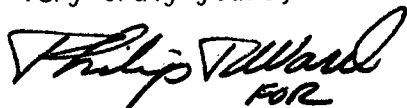
This letter is in response to your request for the number of times our emergency diesel generators have been subjected to starts without prelubrication and warmup (the circulation of warm oil to all bearings) of any moving parts within the past year (December 1, 1982 to December 1, 1983).

The two emergency diesel generator engines at DAEC are two-stroke cycle, solid injector, turbo-superheated, twelve cylinder, opposed piston types, Fairbanks Morse Model 3800TD 8-1/8. During the time in question there have been zero (0) fast cold starts of either diesel generator due to surveillance testing, planned maintenance, or an actual demand. To avoid cold starting of the diesel engine during surveillance testing or maintenance, procedures require the engine to be prelubed for a minimum of 4.5 minutes.

Our experience shows that cold starts of the diesel engine may be the cause for a recurring problem with wiped bearings (Re: RO 77-32, 78-20, 80-11, 80-12, 81-15, and 81-16). Due to these previous occurrences, two steps have been taken with good results: A separate prelubrication oil system for the lower crankshaft bearings has been installed and an Operating Order has been incorporated to require a mandatory inspection of bearings 12,13, and 14 following a diesel engine auto start without prelube.

This letter confirms our response verbally transmitted to your Mr. M. Thadani on 01/06/84. If you have any further questions, please contact our Mr. Michael Harris at (319) 851-7306.

Very truly yours,


FOR

Richard W. McGaughy
Manager, Nuclear Division

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RWM/MSH/pv

cc: M. Harris S. Tuthill
W. Miller M. Thadani
L. Liu NRC Resident Office