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Iowa Electric Light and Power Company

August 29, 1990 DAEC-90-0678

Mr. A. Bert Davis Regional Administrator Region III U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 799 Roosevelt Road Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Subject:

Duane Arnold Energy Center

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

Licensee Event Report #90-009

Gentlemen:

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.73 please find attached a copy of the subject Licensee Event Report.

Very truly yours,

est & Cune 8.29-90

Rick L. Hannen

Plant Superintendent - Nuclear

RLH/BKS/p1

cc: Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Document Control Desk U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mail Station P1-137 Washington, D. C. 20555

NRC Resident Inspector - DAEC

Dr. William R. Jacobs, Jr. GDS Associates, Inc. Suite 720 1850 Parkway Place Marietta, GA 30068-8237

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Duane Arnold Energy Center • 3277 DAEC Road • Palo, Iowa 52324 • 319/851-7611

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between the buildings. Investigation determined the barrier seal did not meet the requirements of 10 CFR 50 Appendix R. The seal was replaced in accordance with 10 CFR 50 Appendix R.

This event is being reported pursuant to 10 CFR 50.73 (a)(2)(i).

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

APPROVED OMB NO.3150-0104

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

EXPIRES: 4/30/92

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE RECORDS AND REPORTS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (P-530). U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104). OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503

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I. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT:

With the plant shutdown in a refueling outage, work was in progress on a Design Change Package involving the Control Building Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) System (EIIS System Code VI) in the Control Room (EIIS System Code NA). This work would make the necessary modifications to meet regulatory standards for maintaining a positive pressure in the Control Room. During testing, personnel identified air leakage from the Control Room into the Cable Spreading Room (EIIS System Code FA) and conduit chase below. The leakage was via the "seismic gap" (provides for building movement during a potential seismic event) between the Control Building and the Reactor Building (EIIS System Code NG). A Fire Protection System (EIIS System Code KP) fire barrier seal (EIIS Component Code SEAL) was installed in the gap. Investigation of the barrier determined that it did not meet the requirements of 10 CFR 50 Appendix R.

II. CAUSE OF EVENT:

Investigation into the cause of the inadequate fire barrier seal determined that it had been in place since construction (prior to issuance of 10 CFR 50 Appendix R). It was determined that the barrier met requirements in effect at the time of construction.

Following the issuance of 10 CFR 50 Appendix R, inspections were performed to assess the plant Fire Protection Program. These included inspecting and verifying barrier seals. Also, a surveillance was established to periodically assess fire barrier seals. Apparently, this barrier seal was inadvertently missed by the inspections and the surveillance.

III. ANALYSIS OF EVENT:

Technical Specifications state that all fire barrier penetration seals protecting safety related areas shall be intact. 10 CFR 50 Appendix R requires a separation of cables and equipment and associated non-safety circuits of redundant trains by a fire barrier having a 3-hour rating. The existing barrier was constructed of pre-fabricated foam-board inserted into the "seismic gap" and sealed with a silicon sealing compound. Over time, the barrier sealing compound had contracted slightly which allowed for the air leakage past the barrier. This type of barrier is generally acceptable but not as a 3-hour rated barrier seal. Both the Control Room and the Cable Spreading Room are monitored by the Fire Detection

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Subsystem (EIIS System Code IC). The Cable Spreading Room is also protected by an automatic carbon dioxide (CO2) Fire Suppression System (EIIS System Code KQ).

Analysis of the remaining "seismic gap" fire barrier seals determined that none of the others were required to be 3-hour rated barriers and were deemed acceptable.

IV. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Upon identifying the seal as inadequate, the required Fire Watch was established. Actions were initiated to correct the inadequacy. The existing barrier seal between the Control Room and Cable Spreading Room was completely removed and replaced. The barrier seal between the Cable Spreading Room and conduit chase was also replaced. The new barrier fully satisfies the 10 CFR 50 Appendix R requirements for a 3-hour rated barrier. Also, this barrier seal has been included in the periodic surveillance.

V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A review of Licensee Event Reports revealed no previous events of this type, where the existing fire barrier seal was not capable of providing a 3-hour rated barrier.

This event is being reported pursuant to 10 CFR 50.73 (a)(2)(i).