9/14/76

Docket No. 50-331

Iowa Electric Light & Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Duane Arnold
President
Security Building
P. O. Box 351
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Gentlemen:

RE: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER

The NRC staff has completed its review of the preliminary outline of the Mark I Containment Long Term Program (LTP) which was proposed by the Mark I Owner's Group during meetings with the NRC staff on July 7 and August 19, 1976. We have provided our evaluation and recommendations for implementation of the proposed LTP to Mr. D. Galle, Chairman of the Mark I Owner's Group, by letter dated September 14, 1976 (Enclosure 1). Following the submittal of the finalized Mark I Owner's Group LTP Action Plan in September 1976, you will be required to document your commitment to assure completion of the established program with its associated schedule.

Sincerely,

George Lear, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Letter from K. R. Goller
to D. Galle dated
September 14, 1976

cc: See next page

OFFICE ➤						
SURNAME ➤						
DATE ➤						

cc: Jack R. Newman, Esquire
Harold F. Reis, Esquire
Lowenstein, Newman, Reis and Axelrad
1025 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

September 14, 1976

Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: Mr. D. Galle, Chairman
Mark I Owner's Group
P. O. Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Galle:

The NRC staff has completed its review of the preliminary outline of the Mark I Long Term Evaluation Program (LTP) which was proposed by the Mark I Containment Owner's Group during meetings with the NRC staff on July 7 and August 19, 1976. Based on this review, we have concluded that certain program activities should be accelerated as described below.

First, based upon currently available information on scaling relationships, the NRC staff believes that two-dimensional full scale steam testing will be required in order to adequately define steam condensation loads for the existing downcomer design (straight pipe) and for the pool swell load mitigating device if such a device is selected for future installation in Mark I facilities. The preliminary design evaluation for this test facility should be completed as soon as practicable and should be submitted to the NRC staff no later than November 1, 1976. This information should include, as a minimum, the objectives of the steam testing program and the milestones associated with the construction and shakedown testing of the facility. In order to assure timely completion of the LTP, every attempt should be made to assure that this facility is available for commencement of the steam testing program by December 1977.

Second, small scale testing programs associated with the selection of a pool swell load mitigating device (if necessary) should be accelerated in order to assure that a suitable device is identified by December 1977. This schedule would permit commencement of testing of the chosen device in the large scale steam testing facility at that time.

The NRC staff will continue to evaluate the LTP as it progresses. Our review will be directed towards ensuring the completion of the Mark I LTP in as timely a manner as practicable.

We are sending a copy of this letter to each Mark I BWR licensee. Following the submittal of the finalized Mark I Owner's Group LTP Action Plan in September 1976, each Mark I BWR licensee will be required to document his commitment to assure completion of the established program with its associated schedule.

Sincerely,

Karl R. Goller

Karl R. Goller, Assistant Director
for Operating Reactors
Division of Operating Reactors