

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

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 MINECK, D.L. Iowa Electric Light & Power Co.
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 DENTON, H.R. Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Director

SUBJECT: RO 81-1: on 810202, during routine instrument check, FR 4133
 offgas stack flow recorder found indicating upscale. Caused
 by frozen sensor line for air flow monitor AFM 7601
 preventing transmitter DPT-4133 from providing flow signal.

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Iowa Electric Light and Power Company

February 12, 1981
DAEC - 81 - 102

Tom Jopulito
For review as necessary

Mr. Harold Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H. Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20545

Re: Duane Arnold Energy Center

Subject: Environmental Technical Specifications
Violation Report 81-1

File: A-117, TE-4

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Dear Mr. Denton:

This report is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Appendix B to Operating License DPR-49, Specification 3.3.1.C.1.a.

Problem

On February 2, 1981, during a routine instrument check, FR 4133, off gas stack flow recorder was found to be indicating upscale. DAEC Technical Specifications, Appendix B, Section 3.3.1.C.1.a, requires the off gas stack flow rate be recorded.

Investigation

FR-4133 was found to be indicating upscale due to the sensor line for air flow monitor AFM 7601 being frozen. This prevented flow transmitter DPT-4133 from providing a flow signal to FR-4133. Flow indication was not available from approximately 0350 hours, 2/2/81 until approximately 1010 hours 2/2/81 when surveillance testing was completed demonstrating flow recorder operability after the sensor line was thawed and moisture removed. Installation of a manometer to provide temporary flow monitoring was not possible due to the connection points for a manometer also being affected by the frozen sensor line. During the period no flow monitoring was available, maximum stack flow would not have resulted in the plant exceeding 4% of Specification 2.3.1.C.1. or 2% of Specification 2.3.1.C.2 of Appendix B. Activity levels at the stack were being recorded throughout the interval no flow indication was available.

Corrective Action

As stated above the sensor line between air flow monitor AFM 7601 and flow transmitter DPT-4133 was thawed and the flow indicating system surveillance tested to demonstrate operability. To help prevent recurrence a design review will be initiated to evaluate heat tracing the sensor line.

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Mr. Harold Denton
February 10, 1981
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As a result of discussions with NRC Region III personnel, it was determined that loss of this flow indication does not, by itself, place the plant in a Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) per DAEC Technical Specifications, Appendix B. It was further determined that providing plant operators with a means for determining off gas stack releases in the absence of an actual flow indication would satisfy the intent of Technical Specifications Appendix B, Section 3.3.1.C.1.a, and thus a Technical Specification Violation could be avoided should flow indication be lost. As a result, the DAEC Radiation Protection Engineer developed a graph which provides Operations personnel with the means for conservatively estimating gaseous releases in percent of Environmental Technical Specification Limits. The Operations Supervisor is currently reviewing this matter to determine how best to proceduralize this graph and instructions for its use.

This report has been reviewed and approved by the DAEC Operations Committee and Safety Committee.

Very truly yours,



Daniel L. Mineck
Chief Engineer
Duane Arnold Energy Center

DLM/JVS/pl

cc: J. Keppler