



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

February 26, 2016

Mr. Thomas A. Vehec
Vice President
NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, IA 52324-9785

**SUBJECT: NRC PARTICIPATION IN THE DUANE ARNOLD MAY 2016, EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE (INGESTION PATHWAY ONLY)**

Dear Mr. Vehec:

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) routinely participates in licensees' emergency preparedness exercises to ensure that the NRC's Incident Response capabilities are effectively maintained and to provide licensees an opportunity to exercise the interface with the NRC that may occur during the response to an incident at their sites. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our intent to participate in the Duane Arnold Emergency Preparedness Exercise that is scheduled to occur on May 17 and 18, 2016. Currently, the extent of participation will only involve regional response staff.

During the exercise, the NRC's response will involve activating our Region III Incident Response Center with regional responders and coordinating with our resident inspectors in your facilities.

In preparation for the Region's participation in the Ingestion Pathway Phase, the Region will staff the Region III Incident Response Center on May 17, 2016. We will not dispatch any NRC Site Team members from the regional office to any of your emergency response facilities. The Region will send a limited number of regional staff to the Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center on May 17 and 18, 2016.

If our scope of participation changes, we will contact your emergency preparedness staff to discuss the changes. Due to the limited planned interface between our staff and yours, we will provide an opportunity to schedule a pre-exercise outreach presentation. The emergency response coordinators will conduct the presentation and provide your staff with training materials to assist your staff in exercising with the NRC. These NRC outreach efforts are tools to further reinforce concepts related to NRC incident response activities.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

T. Vehec

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If you have any questions concerning our participation, please contact Desiree Smith, Region III Emergency Response Coordinator at (630) 829-9853, Brent Boston, Region III Emergency Response Specialist at (630) 829-9764, or me at (630) 829-9707.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief
Health Physics and Incident Response Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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T. Vehec

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