

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONIOWA ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANYDUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTERDOCKET NO. 50-331ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NRF-49, issued to the Iowa Electric Light and Power Company (the licensee), for operation of the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC), located in Linn County, Iowa.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action

The proposed amendment would consist of revisions to 10 CFR Part 20 references to recognize the new section numbers, revise definitions to ensure consistency with 10 CFR Part 20, and change administrative controls for reporting and recordkeeping to maintain compliance with the new Part 20. The change would revise the limitations on concentrations of radioactive material released in liquid effluents and the limitations on the dose rate resulting from radioactive material released in gaseous effluents and reflect the relocation of the prior 10 CFR 20.106 requirements to the new 10 CFR 20.1302. These changes are in response to the licensee's application for amendment dated July 28, 1993, implementing the new 10 CFR Part 20.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is needed in order to retain operational flexibility consistent with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix I, concurrent with the implementation of the revised 10 CFR Part 20.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed revision, in regards to the actual release rates as referenced in the Technical Specifications (TS) as a dose rate to the maximally exposed member of the public, will not increase the types or amounts of effluents that may be released offsite, nor increase individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposures. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed changes do not affect nonradiological effluents and have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

Alternative to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment to the TS, any alternative to the amendment will have either no significantly different environmental impact or will have greater environmental impact. The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts as a result of plant operation.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of the Duane Arnold Energy Center, dated March 1973.

Agencies and persons consulted

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated July 28, 1993, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC and at the Cedar Rapids Public Library, 500 1st Street, S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 52401.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 17th day of December 1993

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original signed by Robert M. Pulsifer

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