IMMEDIATE STATES LETTER



NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

Docket No. 50-331 p

NOV 17 .378

Iowa Electric Light and
Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Duane Arnold
President
IE Towers
P. O. Box 351
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Gentlemen:

This refers to the discussion between Mr. Tuthill and other members of your organization and Mr. Danielson and other members of this office on November 15, 1978, regarding welding practices at the Duane Arnold Nuclear Power Plant. This also refers to the telephone conversation between Messrs. Hammond and Root and Mr. Danielson and others of this office on November 16, 1978. With regard to the matters discussed, we understand that you will not resume welding on any individual recirculation inlet nozzle piping weld joint until the following actions of this Immediate Action Letter have been met;

- 1. You will provide and implement comprehensive and approved process control procedures for tool control, weld filler material heater container and instrument calibration control, weld filler material control and welder qualification document control. These process controls will demonstrate conformance to applicable codes and specifications.
- 2. You will conduct an independent audit in accordance with 10 CFR 50, Appendix B, and ASME Code, Section III, NA 4000, to establish the status of conformance with required codes and specifications for each complete and partially complete weld. These audits will assure that all quality and engineering requirements involved in making each weld are in conformance with these applicable codes and specifications. In addition, this audit activity will include review of documents which may already have been established for each of the joints.

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- 3. Where the audit determines that nonconformances exist relative to the required codes and specifications, an engineering evaluation will be made to determine the disposition of the affected welds. Deficiencies identified in existing audit and nonconformance reports will be included in this evaluation. This engineering review will be documented and conducted in accordance with your quality program.
- 4. After completion of the specified conditions of this letter you shall notify Region III prior to resumption of any welding on a recirculation inlet nozzle weld joint.

Please inform us immediately if your understanding of this program is different from that stated above.

Sincerely,

James G. Keppler Director

cc: Mr. E. L. Hammond,
Chief Engineer
Central Files
Reproduction Unit NRC 20b
PDR
Local PDR
NSIC
TIC
W. P. Ellis, FC&EB

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