

# IES UTILITIES INC.

John F. Franz, Jr.  
Vice President, Nuclear

February 28, 1995  
NG-95-0674

Mr. William T. Russell, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Mail Station P1-37  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Duane Arnold Energy Center  
Docket No: 50-331  
Op. License No: DPR-49  
Additional Information Regarding Alternate Fire Barrier Material  
Testing  
References: Letter, Franz (IES) to Russell (NRC), NG-94-4452,  
dated December 12, 1994  
File: A-101a, P-72a

Dear Mr. Russell:

In the referenced letter, we described our ongoing actions to resolve the concern with Thermo-Lag as a fire barrier material at the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC). In that letter, we further committed to inform you of our plans and schedules for initial testing of alternate fire barrier materials in support of two specific existing installations. This letter provides that information.

As stated in the referenced letter, we are performing a reevaluation of the DAEC fire protection program. This rebaseline of the safe shutdown analysis is expected to resolve some Thermo-Lag installations by eliminating the need for them. Our preliminary results support an alternate resolution of the two above referenced installations through reliance on redundant trains of safe shutdown equipment. Finalization of this analysis is planned for July 1, 1995, as previously communicated in the referenced letter. This resolution strategy eliminates the need for these two fire barrier installations.

As a result of eliminating these two fire barriers, the expected initial phase of alternate fire barrier material testing is not required. We are continuing to investigate the need for alternate barrier

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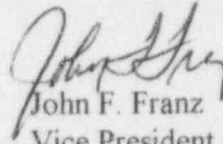
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material testing in accordance with the schedule previously discussed in the referenced letter. We also continue to explore the feasibility of joint material testing with other utilities.

Should you have any further questions regarding this information, please contact this office.

No new commitments are made in this letter:

Sincerely,



John F. Franz  
Vice President, Nuclear

JFF/SRC/pjv

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cc: S. Catron  
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