

October 30, 1998

Mr. John F. Franz, Jr.
Vice President, Nuclear
Alliant Tower
200 First Street SE
P. O. Box 351
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0351

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD RADIATION PROTECTION INSPECTION REPORT
50-331/98017(DRS)

Dear Mr. Franz:

On October 16, 1998, the NRC completed an inspection at your Duane Arnold Energy Center. The enclosed report presents the results of this inspection. No violations of NRC requirements were identified.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel. Specifically, the inspection focused on the implementation of the solid radioactive waste management and the radioactive materials shipping programs. In addition, the inspection reviewed issues identified in previous NRC inspections. No violations of NRC requirements were identified.

We observed strengths in your staff's implementation of the solid radioactive waste management and radioactive material shipping programs. Solid radioactive waste was properly characterized and classified for transport to NRC licensed burial sites, and your staff safely stored radioactive waste and materials within your facility. In particular, the radiation protection staff performed thorough evaluations of radioactive waste stream analyses and of historical data trends. We also observed the proper shipping of radioactive materials from your site, which included adherence to both NRC and Department of Transportation requirements. However, we noted that the communication between the radiation protection and chemistry groups was not always consistent. For example, anomalies between vendor laboratory results and the chemistry staff's results were not consistently discussed and resolved with the chemistry staff.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Original /s/ Gary L. Shear
Gary L. Shear, Chief
Plant Support Branch 2

Docket No.: 50-331
License No.: DPR-49

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-331/98017(DRS)

cc w/encl: E. Protsch, Executive Vice President
Energy Delivery Alliant;
President, IES Utilities, Inc.
G. Van Middlesworth, Plant Manager
K. Peveler, Manager, Regulatory Performance
Chairperson, Iowa Utilities Board

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