

MAY 21 1986

Docket No. 50-331

Iowa Electric Light and Power
CompanyATTN: Mr. Lee Liu
President and Chief
Executive OfficerIE Towers
P. O. Box 351
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your review, prior to our scheduled meeting of May 28, 1986, is the SALP 5 Board Report for the Duane Arnold Energy Center covering the period September 1, 1984 through February 28, 1986.

In accordance with NRC policy, I have reviewed the SALP Board assessment and concur with their ratings. It is my view that Iowa Electric Light and Power Company's conduct of nuclear activities in connection with the Duane Arnold Energy Center shows an appropriate concern for nuclear safety. Specific areas I would like to highlight are:

1. Performance in the area of Maintenance/Modifications is given a Category 2 rating this period. This is a decrease from the Category 1 rating given during the last period. The apparent decrease is a result of more in depth inspection in this area following the termination of the trial inspection program.
2. While the overall rating in Surveillance and Inservice Testing has shown an improvement from a Category 3 to a Category 2, there were weaknesses identified in pump operability and control of instruments indicating that further improvement is warranted.
3. Performance in the area of Security improved from a Category 3 to a Category 2 rating this period. Performance in the area of Emergency Preparedness improved from a Category 2 to a Category 1.
4. Category 1 ratings were maintained in the areas of Plant Operations, Fire Protection, and Licensing Activities. As a result of these findings, we plan to reduce regional inspection activities in these areas.
5. We continue to see an improving trend in the overall regulatory performance of the Duane Arnold station. This was evidenced by the plant record run of 234 days of continuous operation at the end of this assessment period and no scrams from power since 1984.

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Company

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While you will have sufficient opportunity to present your comments at the meeting on May 28, 1986, we also solicit written comments within 30 days after the meeting to enable us to thoroughly evaluate your comments and provide you with our conclusions relative to them.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the SALP Report will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

No reply to this letter is required at this time; however, should you have any questions concerning this SALP Report, we would be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
James G. Keppler

James G. Keppler
Regional Administrator

Enclosure: SALP 5 Board Report
No. 50-331/86001

cc w/enclosure:
D. Mineck, Plant Superintendent
DCS/RSB (RIDS)
Licensing Fee Management Branch
Resident Inspector, RIII
Thomas Houvenagle, Iowa State
Commerce Commission
J. M. Taylor, Director, IE
H. E. Denton, Director, NRR
Regional Administrators
RI, RII, RIV, RV
N. J. Palladino, Chairman
J. K. Asselstine, Commissioner
F. M. Bernthal, Commissioner
T. M. Roberts, Commissioner
L. W. Zech, Commissioner
NRR Project Manager
H. L. Thompson, NRR
J. Axelrad, IE
RIII PRR
RIII SGA
INPO

YES

RIII 5/20/86	RIIAV RBR Landsman Pearson 5-15-86	RIIV W. Sheldoff Boyd 5/15/86	RIII Guldmond 5/15/86	RIII Norellius 5/19/86	RIII Paperiello 5/19	RIII Hind 5/19/86	RIII Davis 5/19
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5/20/86