



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 7, 2021

Mr. Don Moul
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Division, and Chief Nuclear Officer
Florida Power & Light Company
Mail Stop: EX/JB
700 Universe Blvd.
Juno Beach, FL 33408

SUBJECT: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER – TERMINATION OF EMERGENCY
RESPONSE DATA SYSTEM FEED TO THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Moul:

This letter serves to acknowledge the termination by NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC (NEDA, the licensee) of the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) data link from the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Operations Center on November 19, 2020, as it is no longer required based on the permanently shutdown and defueled condition of your facility.

Section VI of Appendix E to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) establishes the requirement for a nuclear power reactor licensee to have a real-time electronic data link from the licensee's onsite computer system to the NRC Operations Center that provides for the automated transmission of a limited dataset of selected parameters. However, Section VI.2 of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 specifically exempts those nuclear power facilities that have permanently or indefinitely shut down from the requirement to maintain the ERDS data link with the NRC.

By letter dated January 18, 2019 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML19023A196), NEDA notified the NRC, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1)(i), of its intention to permanently cease power operations at DAEC in the fourth quarter of 2020. By letter dated August 27, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20240A067), NEDA certified to the NRC that DAEC permanently ceased power operations at DAEC on August 10, 2020. By letter dated October 12, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20286A317), NEDA submitted to the NRC certification, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1)(ii), of the permanent removal of fuel from the DAEC reactor vessel and the placement of the fuel in the DAEC spent fuel pool as of October 12, 2020. Upon the NRC's docketing of these certifications, the 10 CFR Part 50 license for DAEC no longer authorizes operation of the reactor or emplacement or retention of fuel into the reactor vessel, as specified in 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2).

Based on the certification of the permanently shutdown and defueled condition of the DAEC reactor, the NRC acknowledges that NEDA is no longer required to maintain the DAEC ERDS in accordance with Section VI.3 of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 and has subsequently terminated the ERDS data transmission link to the NRC.

The termination of the ERDS link for DAEC does not impact the licensee's responsibility to provide notification to offsite authorities for an emergency declaration, to provide information on facility status to support the assessment of a potential radiological release at the facility, and to advise on offsite action that offsite authorities may consider to protect their citizenry, as described in the DAEC Post-Shutdown Emergency Plan, which was submitted by letter dated April 2, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20094F603).

If you have any questions regarding the termination of the ERDS data link from DAEC to the NRC Operations Center, please contact Bezakulu Alemu at (301) 287-3731 or by e-mail to Bezakulu.Alemu@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Nancy L. Salgado, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch III
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-331

cc: Listserv

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