

Brent Ballard

From: Brent Ballard
Sent: Monday, January 5, 2026 2:47 PM
To: Murrell, Robert; Davis, James; Valdez, Maribel
Cc: Justin Poole; Ilka Berrios
Subject: Duane Arnold Energy Center - Acceptance of Direct License Transfer Request (EPID L-2025-LLM-0006)

Good afternoon,

By letter dated November 25, 2025 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML25330A015), NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC (NEDA), acting on behalf of Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), Corn Belt Power Cooperative (Corn Belt), and itself, submitted an application for an order approving the transfer of the license and conforming amendment regarding the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) and its associated independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI). Specifically, NEDA is requesting that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) consent to the consolidation of all outstanding ownership interests in the DAEC and its generally licensed ISFSI in NEDA by transferring CIPCO's 20% ownership interest in DAEC, and Corn Belt's 10% ownership interest in DAEC, to NEDA. The purpose of this email is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this request.

In accordance with 10 CFR, section 50.80, an application for transfer of an operating license shall include as much of the information as described in 10 CFR 50.33 and 50.34, with respect to the identity and technical and financial qualifications of the proposed transferee as would be required by those sections if the application were for an initial license. The application shall include also a statement of the purposes for which the transfer of the license is requested, the nature of the transaction necessitating or making desirable the transfer of the license, and an agreement to limit access to Restricted Data pursuant to 10 CFR 50.37. In accordance with 10 CFR 72.50, an application for transfer of an ISFSI license must include as much of the information described in 10 CFR 72.22 and 10 CFR 72.28 with respect to the identity and the technical and financial qualifications of the proposed transferee as would be required by those sections if the application were for an initial license. The application must also include a statement of the purposes for which the transfer of the license is requested and the nature of the transaction necessitating or making desirable the transfer of the license. Also, consistent with 10 CFR 50.90 and 10 CFR 72.56, an amendment to the license must fully describe the changes requested, and follow, as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications.

The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

For this request, the NRC staff used the Graded Estimate Method (GEM) for licensing actions, which was discussed with industry during a public workshop on August 5, 2025 (ML25217A212). Based on the GEM approach,

the staff estimates that this review will require 193 hours and almost 3 months, with an expected completion date of March 31, 2026, as requested.

If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be provided to you via separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-0680 or via email at Brent.Ballard@nrc.gov.

Thank you,
Brent

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