

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact your NRR Duane Arnold Project Manager, Brenda L. Mozafari, at 301-415-2020.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Claudia M. Craig, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-331

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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

October 19, 1999

Mr. Eliot Protsch
President
IES Utilities Inc.
200 First Street, SE
P.O. Box 351
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0351

SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION FOR THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE TO ASME
SECTION XI REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTAINMENT INSERVICE INSPECTION
FOR THE DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER (TAC NO. MA5420)

Dear Mr. Protsch:

In a letter dated April 2, 1999, IES Utilities, Inc., licensee for the Duane Arnold Energy Center, submitted relief requests for the Containment Inspection Program. The NRC staff has reviewed the proposed alternative examinations against the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (the Code), Section XI, 1992 Edition through 1992 Addenda of Subsection IWE pursuant to Section 50.55a of Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*.

The NRC staff's evaluation is contained in the enclosed safety evaluation (SE). The SE concludes the following:

- (1) For MC-R002 and MC-R006, compliance with the Code would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety, and the proposed alternatives will provide reasonable assurance of containment pressure integrity. Therefore, the proposed alternatives are authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii).
- (2) For MC-R003, MC-R004, MC-R005, MC-R007, and MC-P001, the proposed alternatives provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Therefore, the proposed alternatives are authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) for the first 10-year interval of the Containment Inspection Program.
- (3) For NDE-R015, Revision 1, the proposed alternatives provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Therefore, the proposed alternatives are authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) for the third 10-year interval of the Inservice Inspection Program.

The Containment Inspection Program and Inservice Inspection Program alternatives that are authorized herein are acceptable for implementation. The authorization of the alternatives is based upon the fulfillment of any commitments made by IES Utilities, Inc., in the basis for each of the proposed alternatives.

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E. Protsch

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If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact your NRR Duane Arnold Project Manager, Brenda L. Mozafari, at 301-415-2020.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Claudia M. Craig in black ink.

Claudia M. Craig, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

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