

February 9, 2001

NG-01-0128

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Mail Station 0-P1-17
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Duane Arnold Energy Center
Docket No: 50-331
Op. License No: DPR-49
Implementation of Revised 10 CFR 50.59 Requirements
File: A-100

The effective date for the revised 10 CFR 50.59, was established in a December 13, 2000 *Federal Register* notice (65 FR 77773), as March 13, 2001. As discussed in Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2001-03, dated January 23, 2001, the NRC has stated that to permit an orderly transition to the revised rule, licensees may implement the rule later than this date. Although an exemption is not necessary, the RIS suggested licensees communicate such implementation plans to the NRC. The Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) is scheduled to begin a refueling outage (RFO) on April 12, 2001 and has determined that there is insufficient time to train personnel without impacting outage preparations. DAEC will begin training personnel on the revised 10 CFR 50.59 immediately following the RFO. Additionally, DAEC feels that transitioning to the revised rule immediately prior to the RFO would place additional demands on the staff during the RFO. Therefore, it is our intention to implement the revised rule at the DAEC on July 30, 2001.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,



Gary Van Middlesworth
Site General Manager

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