

NOV 26 1971

Docket No. 50-331

ENVIRONMENTAL (NEPA)

Mr. Leroy Stratton
Bureau of Radiological Health
Illinois Department of
Public Health
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Mr. Stratton:

The Iowa Electric Light and Power Company, the Corn Belt Power Cooperative and the Central Iowa Power Cooperative (the licensees) are the holders of Construction Permit No. CPPER-70, issued by the Atomic Energy Commission on June 22, 1970. The construction permit authorizes the licensees to construct a boiling water nuclear power reactor designated as the Duane Arnold Energy Center, at the Iowa Electric Light Power Company's site in Linn County, Iowa. The facility is designed for initial operation at approximately 1593 megawatts (thermal).

In accordance with Section E.3 of the Commission's regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Appendix D of 10 CFR Part 50 (Appendix D), the licensees have furnished to the Commission a written statement of reasons, with supporting factual submission, why the construction permit should not be suspended, in whole or in part, pending completion of the NEPA environmental review. This statement of reasons was furnished to the Commission on October 18, 1971.

The Director of Regulation has considered the licensees' submission in light of the criteria set out in Section E.2 of Appendix D, and has determined, after considering and balancing criteria in Section E.2 of Appendix D, that construction activities at the Duane Arnold Energy Center authorized pursuant to CPPER-70 should not be suspended pending completion of the NEPA environmental review.

Further details of this determination are set forth in a document entitled "Discussion and Findings by the Division of Reactor Licensing, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Relating to Consideration of Suspension Pending NEPA Environmental Review of the Construction Permit for the Duane Arnold Energy Center Docket No. 50-331," copy enclosed.

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Mr. Leroy Stratton

- 2 -

A copy of a related notice which has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Roger S. Boyd

Roger S. Boyd, Assistant Director
for Boiling Water Reactors
Division of Reactor Licensing

Enclosures:

1. Discussion & Findings
2. Federal Register Notice

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