

See Docket 50-277  
for enclosure

8/11/77

Docket No. 50-331

Iowa Electric Light & Power Company  
ATTN: Mr. Duane Arnold  
President  
P. O. Box 351  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

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Gentlemen:

RE: DUANE ARNOLD ENERGY CENTER

The NRC has completed its initial evaluation of the BWR feedwater nozzle and control rod drive (CRD) line return nozzle cracking phenomena and experience to date. This evaluation has considered examination results reported by BWR owners, theoretical analyses of the causes of the cracking and propagation, and studies of potential remedial measures to minimize crack initiation and growth for the short term and also to eliminate the causes of cracking for the longer term. The enclosed staff report presents our position regarding feedwater nozzle and CRD nozzle cracking and includes inspection criteria to be used by licensees to monitor crack growth until such time as the causes of cracking have been eliminated.

As indicated in Part I, Section 7 and Part II, Section 5 of this report, you should provide a detailed description of your proposed inspection program, 90 days prior to the next refueling outage for each BWR facility.

Sincerely,

George Lear, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #3  
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:  
Staff Report

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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cc:

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