

December 13, 2013
EN 13-043

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC
Duane Arnold Energy Center
Docket No.: 50-331

EA-13-182

Subject: ISSUANCE OF FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

This is to inform the Commission that a Notice of Violation will be issued on or about December 18, 2013, to NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC (NextEra) for a violation associated with a White Significance Determination Process finding identified during an inspection of the Duane Arnold Energy Center. This White finding, an issue of low to moderate safety significance, will require additional U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspections. It involves the failure of Duane Arnold personnel to prescribe a work instruction of a type appropriate to the circumstances for the re-assembly of the 'A' standby diesel generator lube oil heat exchanger. Specifically, the work instruction did not contain sufficient detail and acceptance criteria, appropriate torque values, and operating experience information to ensure the heat exchanger gasket was properly compressed. This contributed to the catastrophic failure of the heat exchanger gasket during a maintenance run of the engine on March 8, 2013, rendering the 'A' standby diesel generator unavailable.

A Notice of Violation is included based on NextEra's failure to meet 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion V, "Instructions, Procedures, and Drawings", which requires, in part, that activities affecting quality shall be prescribed by documented instructions of a type appropriate to the circumstances and be accomplished in accordance with these instructions. In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, the NOV is considered an escalated enforcement action because it is associated with a White finding.

NextEra attended a Regulatory Conference on November 5, 2013, and presented its assessment of the significance of the finding. After reviewing the information developed during the inspection, and the information provided by NextEra, the staff concluded that the finding is appropriately characterized as White.

It should be noted that the licensee has not been specifically informed of the enforcement action. The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Final Significance Determination
Telephone Notification of Licensee

December 18, 2013
December 18, 2013

The State of Iowa will be notified.

CONTACTS: Lauren Casey, OE, (301) 415-1038 Nick Hilton, OE, (301) 415-2741

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