

Iowa Electric Light and Power Company

June 10, 1993  
NG-93-2401

JOHN F. FRANZ, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT, NUCLEAR

Dr. Thomas E. Murley, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Mail Station P1-137  
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Duane Arnold Energy Center  
Docket No: 50-331

Op. License No: DPR-49

Clarification of GL 88-01 Requirements

- References:
- 1) NRC Position on IGSCC in BWR  
Austenitic Stainless Steel Piping  
(Generic Letter 88-01), dated  
January 25, 1988
  - 2) NG-88-0973, W. Rothert (IE) to Dr.  
T. Murley (NRC), dated July 27,  
1988
  - 3) NRC Safety Evaluation of GL 88-01  
Response, dated May 31, 1990

File: A-101b, A-286a, B-31c, B-31f

Dear Dr. Murley:

Generic Letter (GL) 88-01 (Reference 1) delineated the Staff's positions on Intergranular Stress Corrosion Cracking (IGSCC), including the Staff's position on weld inspection schedules. The Staff's position specified that 50% of Category E welds (weld overlays) be examined during the next refueling outage (RFO) and all Category E welds be examined every two refueling cycles. There are nine Category E welds at the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC).

Our response to this GL (Reference 2) included a copy of our augmented examination procedure. This procedure contained a schedule of planned weld examinations which indicated that all nine Category E welds would be examined every refueling outage. This schedule exceeds the Staff's requirement to examine all the welds every two cycles. The NRC's Safety Evaluation (SE) of our response (Reference 3) incorporates a summary of this schedule. We have in fact inspected all nine Category E welds each refueling outage since 1985. No new IGSCC indications have been

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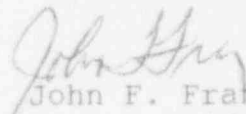
identified in those inspections.

We intend to modify the schedule for inspection of Category E welds for the refueling outage (RFO 12) scheduled to commence July 29, 1993, and the next refueling outage (RFO 13), i.e. for the remainder of this 10-year inservice inspection interval. We intend to examine the four Category E welds located on the "A" recirculation loop piping during RFO 12 and the remaining five Category E welds located on the "B" recirculation loop piping during RFO 13. This will result in a dose savings of approximately twelve man-Rem in RFO 12. This includes dose associated with the removal of outer bioshields on the "B" side to inspect three of the five overlays, the dose associated with the erection and removal of scaffolding, the removal and reinstallation of insulation, as well as the inspections.

This revised schedule is deemed to be acceptable because it fully meets the weld inspection frequency requirements set out in GL 88-01; the weld overlays have shown no new indications of IGSCC in the inspections performed every RFO since the overlays were applied in 1985; and, there is a significant dose savings to be achieved. In addition, in accordance with the GL and the NRC's SE, if significant crack growth or additional cracks are found during the inspection of any Category E weld, all other Category E welds will be examined.

If you have any additional questions or concerns regarding this submittal, please contact this office.

Very truly yours,

  
John F. Franz  
Vice President, Nuclear

JFF/CJR

cc: C. Rushworth  
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