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John F. Franz, Jr.
Vice President, Nuclear

October 17, 1996
NG-96-2049

Mr. Frank J. Miraglia, Jr., Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Mail Station P1-37
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Duane Arnold Energy Center
Docket No: 50-331
Op. License No: DPR-49
Withdrawal of Request for Exemption from 10CFR50, Appendix R
"Fire Protection Program for Nuclear Power Facilities Operating Prior
to January 1, 1979"

- References:
1. Letter, Franz (IES) to Document Control Desk (NRC), dated June 28, 1996, NG-96-1336
 2. Letter, Kelly (NRC) to Liu (IES), dated August 22, 1996, "Request for Additional Information (RAI) on the Duane Arnold Energy Center Appendix R Exemptions Request"
 3. Letter, Franz (IES) to Russell(NRC), dated June 30, 1995, NG-95-2074

File: A-101a, P-72a

Dear Mr. Miraglia:

In Reference 1, IES Utilities requested, pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Part 50.12, an exemption from Section III.G.2.a of 10CFR50, Appendix R, "Fire Protection Program for Nuclear Power Facilities Operating Prior to January 1, 1979." Reference 1 requested exemption from the requirement for a three hour rated fire barrier for raceway within the same fire area and pertained to the protection of cables installed at the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC). The purpose of this letter is to withdraw the subject exemption request.

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Mr. Frank J. Miraglia, Jr.,

October 17, 1996

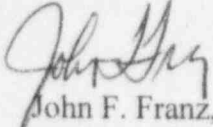
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New and revised commitments are made in this letter and its attachment. These commitments and the associated completion dates are summarized in the attachment to this letter and supersede those communicated in Reference 3.

Should you have any questions concerning this submittal, please contact this office.

Sincerely,



John F. Franz,
Vice President, Nuclear

Attachment

JFF/LBS

cc: L. B. Swenzinski
L. Liu
G. Kelly (NRC-NRR)
A. B. Beach (Region III)
NRC Resident Office
Docu

IES Utilities

Integrated Thermo-Lag Resolution Schedule

Change in Resolution Path for Raceway Installation 16F-1

In Reference 1, IES Utilities requested exemption from Section III.G.2.a of 10CFR50, Appendix R for the Thermo-Lag installation identified as 16F-1. In Reference 2, your staff requested additional information regarding that exemption request. This letter withdraws the subject exemption request. Consequently, IES Utilities will not provide additional information in response to Reference 2.

As previously identified, Thermo-Lag installation 16F-1 does not meet the requirements of 10CFR50, Appendix R, Section III.G.2.a. Per our program for impaired fire barriers, firewatches are currently in place as compensatory measures. Plant modifications will be necessary to bring installation 16F-1 and its associated fire zone into compliance. Completion of these plant modifications by July 31, 1997 will be identified as Schedule Item 14. Compensatory measures will continue until the Appendix R requirement can be met.

In Reference 3, Schedule Item 11, IES Utilities committed to completing plant modifications, fire barrier installation/replacement and field verification activities to fully resolve DAEC Thermo-Lag concerns by December 31, 1996. Due to our continuing efforts to resolve installation 16F-1, this letter changes the scope of Schedule Item 11 to exclude Thermo-Lag installation 16F-1. As stated above, resolution of Thermo-Lag installation 16F-1 will now be documented separately under Schedule Item 14.

In Reference 3, Schedule Item 12, IES Utilities committed to submitting DAEC Thermo-Lag Final Resolution Report containing required information to the NRC by March 1, 1997. This completion date will be changed to October 31, 1997 to allow inclusion of required information pertaining to the resolution of Thermo-Lag installation 16F-1.