

JAN 30 1986

Docket No. 50-331

Iowa Electric Light and Power
Company

ATTN: Mr. Lee Liu
President and Chief
Executive Officer

IE Towers
P. O. Box 351
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Gentlemen:

This refers to the special safety inspection conducted by Messrs. R. A. Westberg and R. N. Sutphin of this office on December 9, 1985, through January 10, 1986, of activities at the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) authorized by NRC Operating License No. DPR-49 and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. D. Mineck and others of his staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

This inspection was an indepth assessment of engineering, maintenance, and surveillance testing activities on the High Pressure Coolant Injection (HPCI) and Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC) systems. It was prompted by the NRC's concerns regarding the apparent lack of reliability of both systems as evidenced by the numerous Licensee Event Reports (LERs) issued from 1983 to date.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified during the inspection. We found your controls to ensure systems reliability to be reasonably effective; however, certain key elements could be added and implementation could be further improved through increased management attention. The recommendations in Paragraphs 2.d(1) through 2.d(12) reflect weaknesses which we feel impact HPCI and RCIC reliability. Accordingly, we request that you address each of these recommendations in response to this letter.

We recognize that the results of your HPCI/RCIC reliability task force efforts are pending. Our special inspection was conducted in parallel with your effort and, as such, our conclusions are not intended to supplant the results of your task force. We consider the work of your task force to be very important, and upon completion of your investigation, we request its results be made available to us.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Carl D. Paperiello

Carl D. Paperiello, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

cc w/enclosure:

D. Mineck, Plant Superintendent
Nuclear
DCS/RSB (RIDS)
Licensing Fee Management Branch
Resident Inspector, RIII
Thomas Houvenagle, Iowa State
Commerce Commission

RIII

W

Westberg/mab
01/30/86

RIII

*SW
for*

Sutphin

RIII

*yes
for*

Vandel

RIII

*yes
1/30*

Hawkins

RIII

*yes
1/24/86*

Chrissotimos

RIII

CP

Reyes

RIII

CP

Paperiello

1/30/86