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March 21, 2000

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)
)
Washington Public Power) Docket No. 50-460-OL
Supply System)
)
(Nuclear Project No. 1))

NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO
WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM'S
REQUEST TO DEFER LICENSING BOARD RULING

On February 29, 2000, Washington Public Power Supply System (Supply System) filed a Request to Defer Licensing Board Ruling, in which it asked the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (Licensing Board) to defer ruling on its Motion for Withdrawal of Application (Motion), filed January 4, 2000, until after the Supply System had clarified its intentions in a status report that it would file in July, 2000. On March 7, 2000, the Licensing Board issued a scheduling order, indicating that responses to the Supply System's request should be filed no later than March 22, 2000.

The NRC staff (Staff) has no objection to the Licensing Board's granting the Supply System's request.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann P. Hodgdon
Ann P. Hodgdon
Counsel for NRC staff

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
this 21st day of March, 2000

SECY-02

TEMPLATE = SECY-042

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM REQUEST TO DEFER LICENSING BOARD RULING" in the above-captioned proceeding have been served on the following through deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal mail system with copies by electronic mail where indicated, or by deposit in the United States mail, first class, as indicated by an asterisk, with copies by electronic mail where indicated, this 21st day of March, 2000.

G. Paul Bollwerk, III
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
(E-mail: GPB@NRC.GOV)

Office of the Secretary (2)
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David R. Schink*
Administrative Judge
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Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
Panel (1)
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Adjudicatory File (2)
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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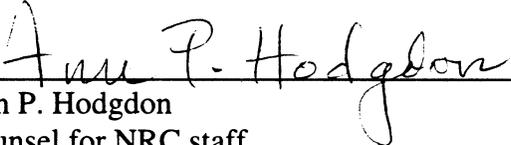
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