

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Walnut Creek Field Office, Region IV
1450 Maria Lane Walnut Creek California 94596

CONTACT: Mark Hammond
1997
Office: (510) 975-0254
RELEASE
Home: (415) 674-1024
Pager: (800) 916-4952
mfh2@nrc.gov

Feb. 4,

FOR IMMEDIATE

RIV-0997

email:

NRC SCHEDULES DESIGN INSPECTION MEETING
FOR WASHINGTON NUCLEAR PROJECT-2

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a public exit meeting with officials of the Washington Public Power Supply System to discuss the results of a special NRC design inspection at the Washington Nuclear Project-2. The meeting will be on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 8:30 a.m. at Supply System headquarters, 3000 George Washington Way, in Richland, Wash.

The inspection was conducted on various dates between late November and Jan. 16. It was led by Peter Koltay of NRC's headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, and supported by five inspectors from the engineering firm Stone & Webster.

Similar inspections have been and will be conducted at other plants in the nation. The NRC initiated these inspections after finding that the Millstone plant in Connecticut and other facilities performed full-core offloads during refueling outages without performing necessary safety evaluations. It was also discovered that the configuration and operation of some facilities were inconsistent with design basis information.

During the WNP-2 inspection, no issues were discovered that raised immediate operability concerns. A written report on the inspection is expected in mid-March.

#