

June 20, 2000

Mr. J. V. Parrish
Chief Executive Officer
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968 (Mail Drop 1023)
Richland, WA 99352-0968

**SUBJECT: WNP-2 - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT RE: TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT 3.5.2.2 (TAC NO. MA6168)**

Dear Mr. Parrish:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 165 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 for WNP-2. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) in response to your application dated July 29, 1999.

The amendment revises Surveillance Requirement 3.5.2.2. The change requires maintaining a higher water level in the condensate storage tanks.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Jack Cushing, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 165 to NPF-21
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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WNP-2

cc:

Mr. Greg O. Smith (Mail Drop 927M)
Vice President, Generation
Energy Northwest
P. O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Mr. Albert E. Mouncer (Mail Drop 1396)
Chief Counsel
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Ms. Deborah J. Ross, Chairman
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
P. O. Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

Mr. D. W. Coleman (Mail Drop PE20)
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Mr. Paul Inserra (Mail Drop PE20)
Manager, Licensing
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Regional Administrator, Region IV
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Harris Tower & Pavilion
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011-8064

Chairman
Benton County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 69
Prosser, WA 99350-0190

Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P.O. Box 69
Richland, WA 99352-0069

Mr. Rodney L. Webring (Mail Drop PE08)
Vice President, Operations Support/PIO
Energy Northwest
P. O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Thomas C. Poindexter, Esq.
Winston & Strawn
1400 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Mr. Bob Nichols
Executive Policy Division
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

ENERGY NORTHWEST

DOCKET NO. 50-397

WNP-2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 165
License No. NPF-21

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Energy Northwest dated July 29, 1999, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 165 and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Stephen Dembek, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: June 20, 2000

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 165

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-21

DOCKET NO. 50-397

Replace the following page of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached revised page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains vertical lines indicating the areas of change. The corresponding overleaf page is also provided to maintain document completeness.

REMOVE

3.5.2-3

INSERT

3.5.2-3

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURVEILLANCE	FREQUENCY
<p>SR 3.5.2.1 Verify, for each required low pressure ECCS injection/spray subsystem, the suppression pool water level is \geq 18 ft 6 inches.</p>	<p>12 hours</p>
<p>SR 3.5.2.2 Verify, for the required High Pressure Core Spray (HPCS) System, the:</p> <p>a. Suppression pool water level is \geq 18 ft 6 inches; or</p> <p>b. Condensate storage tank (CST) water level is \geq 14.8 ft in a single CST or \geq 9.1 ft in each CST.</p>	<p>12 hours.</p>
<p>SR 3.5.2.3 Verify, for each required ECCS injection/spray subsystem, the piping is filled with water from the pump discharge valve to the injection valve.</p>	<p>31 days</p>
<p>SR 3.5.2.4 -----NOTE----- One low pressure coolant injection (LPCI) subsystem may be considered OPERABLE during alignment and operation for decay heat removal, if capable of being manually realigned and not otherwise inoperable. -----</p> <p>Verify each required ECCS injection/spray subsystem manual, power operated, and automatic valve in the flow path, that is not locked, sealed, or otherwise secured in position, is in the correct position.</p>	<p>31 days</p>

(continued)

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURVEILLANCE			FREQUENCY	
SR 3.5.2.5	Verify each required ECCS pump develops the specified flow rate with the specified developed head.		In accordance with the Inservice Testing Program	
	<u>SYSTEM</u>	<u>FLOW RATE</u>		<u>TOTAL DEVELOPED HEAD</u>
	LPCS	≥ 6350 gpm		≥ 128 psid
	LPCI	≥ 7450 gpm		≥ 26 psid
HPCS	≥ 6350 gpm	≥ 200 psid		
SR 3.5.2.6	<p>-----NOTE----- Vessel injection/spray may be excluded. -----</p> <p>Verify each required ECCS injection/spray subsystem actuates on an actual or simulated automatic initiation signal.</p>		24 months	



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 165 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-21

ENERGY NORTHWEST

WNP-2

DOCKET NO. 50-397

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated July 29, 1999, in response to the NRC staff's inspection report 50-397/98-15, dated November 6, 1998, Energy Northwest (the licensee), proposed a license amendment to revise Technical Specification (TS) Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.5.2.2 for WNP-2. This SR verifies the specified water level in the condensate storage tank (CST) in plant shutdown Modes 4 and 5. This verification assures availability of an adequate water inventory in the CST to support operation of the high pressure core spray (HPCS) system. The proposed TS change will require maintaining higher than the current TS required water level in the CSTs. The proposed change is conservative and is based on a revised setpoint calculation identified in the staff's inspection report 50-397/98-15 dated November 6, 1998.

2.0 EVALUATION

The CST provides an immediate source of water for emergency core cooling and reactor shutdown in a boiling water reactor (BWR). There are two CSTs at WNP-2, each having a minimum capacity of 400,000 gallons. A combined minimum inventory of 135,000 gallons in the two CSTs is reserved for reactor core isolation cooling (RCIC) and HPCS. This ensures an immediate availability of sufficient quantity of reactor coolant supply for emergency core cooling and reactor shutdown. Although a minimum inventory of 135,000 gallons is maintained in the CSTs for RCIC and HPCS pumps, the suppression pool remains the safety-related source of water for these pumps.

The CST water level measurement is made in a standpipe located in the reactor building which is a distance away from the CSTs. Level switches mounted on the standpipe provide signals for the HPCS pump suction transfer from the CSTs to the suppression pool. These switches also provide high and low CST water level alarms to prevent overflow or dropping below the specified level and indicate CST water level in the control room. When the water inventory in the CST depletes to the TS specified level setpoint, the level switches initiate automatic suction transfer of the operating HPCS pump from the CST to the suppression pool, which is the safety-related source of water for reactor core cooling. The difference between the TS required minimum water level to be maintained in the CSTs and the level switch setpoint to initiate HPCS pump suction transfer from CST to suppression pool is equivalent to 135,000 gallons of water in

the CSTs. The HPCS pumps are normally aligned to take suction from the CST and CST level instrumentation operability is verified in plant operating Modes 1, 2, and 3. The plant TS also requires verifying CST reserved water inventory (135,000 gallons) in plant shutdown Modes 4 and 5. The current SR 3.5.2.2 applicable to CST water inventory verification indicates that this volume of water in the WNP-2 CST is confirmed if the level instrumentation shows at least 13.25 feet of water in a single CST or 7.6 feet of water in each of the two CSTs.

Inspection Report 50-367/98-15 indicates that this equivalence was based on the licensee's 1983 calculations. Subsequently, the licensee used more accurate values of pressure drop in the instrumentation piping to establish a more accurate relationship between the water level in the instrumentation standpipe and the actual level in the CSTs. It was determined that the level sensed by the instrumentation located at the standpipe could differ from the actual water level in the CSTs and with the current TS required minimum water level in the CSTs, the HPCS pump suction may transfer from the CSTs to the suppression pool prior to depletion of the entire 135,000 gallons of the reserved water in the CSTs. The new calculation established that with the existing design of the instrumentation piping, the CST water level should be maintained above 14.8 feet in a single tank or above 9.1 feet in each of two tanks to assure using the entire reserved inventory before the initiation of an automatic transfer of HPCS pump suction to the suppression pool.

The licensee determined that either the plant design should be modified or the plant TS be revised to include the new higher values of CST water level for periodic verification. The licensee maintained that 135,000 gallons of CST water inventory was not critical with respect to the HPCS and RCIC safety function and that the HPCS and RCIC system remained operable. Additionally, the plant operating procedure maintains the CST water level above 21 feet and the licensee has implemented administrative controls to ensure an adequate water level in the CSTs. In Inspection Report 50-397/98-15, the staff found the new calculations to have accurately established the relationship between the water level in the instrumentation standpipe and the actual water level in the CSTs. The proposed TS change incorporates the result of this new calculation. Inspection Report 50-367/98-15 also indicated that the plant operating procedure and administrative controls sufficiently assure an adequate water inventory in the CSTs until the plant design is modified or the plant TS is revised to include the new CST water levels for periodic verification.

Based on the above review of Energy Northwest's justification for the changes, the staff concludes that the licensee's proposed changes to SR 3.5.2.2 are acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Washington State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a surveillance requirement. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration,

and there has been no public comment on such finding (64 FR 46431). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security of the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: I. Ahmed

Date: June 20, 2000