

ENERGY NORTHWEST

P.O. Box 968 ■ Richland, Washington 99352-0968

April 9, 2001
GO1-01-0035

Docket No. 50-460

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: **ENERGY NORTHWEST
NUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 1 (WNP-1)
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AMENDMENT REQUEST**

Reference: Letter GO1-99-067, dated December 21, 1999, JV Parrish (Energy Northwest) to NRC, "Termination of Construction Permit CPPR-134"

The purposes of this letter are to: 1) retract our request for termination of Construction Permit CPPR-134 that was proposed in the reference; 2) request an amendment to the construction permit to extend the latest completion date; and 3) update the permit to reflect an administrative change in the permit holder's name from the Washington Public Power Supply System to Energy Northwest. These actions to extend and update the permit are needed to retain a valid permit while allowing time to complete an evaluation of options to meet future electricity demands in the Pacific Northwest, including possible completion of construction of WNP-1.

Construction Permit CPPR-134 for the WNP-1 facility was issued to the Washington Public Power Supply System. In 1999, the legal corporate name of the Washington Public Power Supply System was changed to Energy Northwest. Accordingly, the construction permit should be amended to reflect the new corporate identity.

Construction Permit CPPR-134 presently has a latest construction completion date of June 1, 2001. Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55(b), we are requesting an amendment to Construction Permit CPPR-134 to extend the latest completion date from June 1, 2001 to June 1, 2011. This amendment request is consistent with Section A.2 of Generic Letter 87-15, "Policy Statement on Deferred Plants." As you are aware, the project has been deferred since 1982.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(b), good cause now exists to extend the construction permit latest completion date. Increased electrical load in the Pacific Northwest has underscored the need for a flexible range of power generation options and alternatives to meet the region's growing base-load power supply needs. Furthermore, in response to the energy crisis in the Western United States, some of our stakeholders have requested that we conduct a viability study on the completion of the facility. Until the viability study is completed and decisions on generating options to meet future load forecasts are finalized, maintaining WNP-1 as a deferred facility is consistent with our commitment to maintain potential generating resources.

The construction of WNP-1 is approximately 65 percent complete; therefore, most of the construction impacts discussed in the final environmental statement have already occurred. This proposed action would only extend the period of construction and update the name of the construction permit holder. The proposed amendment request does not involve any different impacts from those described and analyzed in the environmental report and will not allow any work to be performed that is not already allowed by the existing construction permit.

This proposed change would not result in a physical change to WNP-1 or modify facility programs or procedures. The extension will merely allow more time to complete construction in accordance with the previously approved construction permit. The change in the corporate name from the Washington Public Power Supply System to Energy Northwest is purely administrative in nature. The legal corporate status of the construction permit holder has not changed.

In summary, the increase in the electrical load in the Pacific Northwest and requests to conduct a viability study on completion of the unit constitute conditions beyond the control of Energy Northwest, resulting in the valid business need for an extension of Construction Permit CPPR-134. Accordingly, we also retract our previous request for termination of the permit. Based on the information provided above and pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55(b), there is good cause for the requested extension and the proposed revised completion date reflects a reasonable time period. This request meets the 30-day requirement of 10 CFR 2.109 for a timely renewal application.

Should you have any questions or desire additional information pertaining to this letter, please call either WA Kiel at (509) 377-4490 or JD Arbuckle at (509) 377-4601.

Respectfully,



RL Webring

Vice President, Operations Support/PIO

Mail Drop PE08

cc: EW Merschoff - NRC RIV
JS Cushing - NRC NRR
MM Mendonca - NRC NRR
JH Wilson - NRC NRR

NRC Sr. Resident Inspector - 988C
DJ Ross - EFSEC
TC Poindexter - Winston & Strawn
DL Williams - BPA/1399

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
)
COUNTY OF BENTON)

Subject: Request for Amendment
WNP-1 Construction Permit
[CPPR-134]

I, R.L. WEBRING, being duly sworn, subscribe to and say that I am the Vice President, Operations Support/PIO for ENERGY NORTHWEST, the applicant herein; that I have the full authority to execute this oath; that I have reviewed the foregoing; and that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief the statements made in it are true.

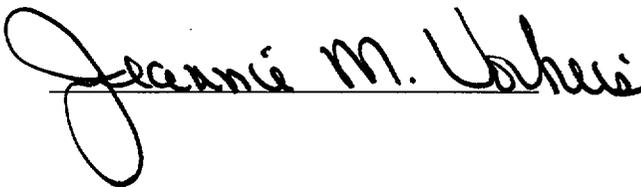
DATE 4/9/ _____, 2001



R. L. Webring
Vice President, Operations Support/PIO

On this date personally appeared before me R. L. Webring, to me known to be the individual who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he signed the same as his free act and deed for the uses and purposes herein mentioned.

GIVEN under my hand and seal this 9 day of April _____ 2001.



Jeannie M. Uchese

Notary Public in and for the
STATE OF WASHINGTON

Residing at Benton County

5/6/01 My Commission Expires