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WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
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Docket No. 50-397

Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

DOCKET NUMBER
PROPOSED RULE **PR 73**
(62 FR 7721)

Gentlemen:

Subject: **PROPOSED RULE, "CHANGES TO NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
SECURITY REQUIREMENTS," 62 FEDERAL REGISTER 7721
FEBRUARY 20, 1997**

The following is submitted in response to the federal register notice regarding the subject proposed rule.

We support the proposed changes with one comment as follows:

We would propose to change the last sentence of 10 CFR 73.55(d)(4) to read, "Escort is not required for designated licensee vehicles or licensee-owned vehicles entering the protected area and driven by employees having unescorted access."

Our proposed change deletes the requirement for the driver to be a licensee employee and would allow anyone with unescorted access to drive a designated licensee vehicle or licensee-owned vehicle and not require an escort. A significant number of the drivers of such vehicles at our site are contractor employees with unescorted access who should also be included in the population of drivers not requiring escort.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposed rule. If you have any questions or require any clarification please call me or Fred Dehart at (509) 377-8287.

Respectfully,

RL Webring (Mail Drop PE08)
Vice President, Operations Support/PIO

cc: RE Enkeboll, NEI

ACKNOWLEDGED BY CARD MAY 15 1997