

May 25, 1989

Docket No. 50-397

Mr. G. C. Sorenson, Manager  
Regulatory Programs  
Washington Public Power Supply System  
P.O. Box 968  
3000 George Washington Way  
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Sorenson:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR LICENSE AMENDMENT REGARDING BATTERY  
DUTY CYCLES (TAC NO. 67620)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact. The notice relates to your request for a license amendment dated March 18, 1988 (G02-88-065) and supplemented by letter dated April 12, 1989 (G02-89-059). The amendment changes the battery load profiles in the technical specifications to reflect revisions to the battery calculations.

The Notice has been sent to Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert B. Samworth, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate V  
Division of Reactor Projects III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
Notice

cc w/enclosure:  
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WNP-2 EA67620

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

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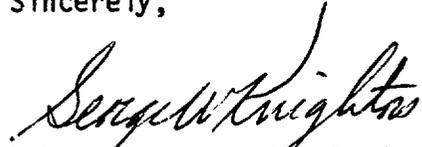
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*for*   
Robert B. Samworth, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate V  
Division of Reactor Projects III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
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cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

Mr. G. C. Sorensen

WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2  
(WNP-2)

cc:

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P.O. Box 968  
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Richland, Washington 99352

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONWASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEMDOCKET NO. 50-397NUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 2ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 issued to Washington Public Power Supply System (the licensee), for operation of Nuclear Project No. 2, located in Benton County, Washington.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed amendment revises the battery load profiles shown in Technical Specification 3/4.8.2.1, "D.C. Sources - Operating." The surveillance requirement includes a table showing the minimum amperage which each battery must be capable of delivering as a function of time when called upon to deliver emergency loads. The licensee has recalculated these emergency loads and the resulting battery profiles to account for current safety equipment configurations. The amendment inserts currently applicable values into the table.

In making the calculation, the licensee used a different aging factor for the 250 volt batteries than for the 24 volt and 125 volt batteries. The surveillance requirement is revised to include separate criteria applicable to the 250 volt batteries for the periodic performance discharge tests.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated March 18, 1988, as supplemented by letter dated April 12, 1989.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed amendment is required to ensure that the batteries are capable of providing emergency loads. The periodic surveillance required by the technical specifications is intended to show that the batteries are capable of meeting the actual expected loads. The licensee has recently reevaluated emergency loads and has recomputed the battery requirements for these loads. The amendment will place these up-to-date values into the technical specifications.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

This action does not involve a change to equipment or to operating procedures. It is limited to a revision to the calculated emergency battery loads. An existing license requirement would be amended to reflect the new calculations. The staff has completed its safety evaluation of the proposed amendment and finds the change acceptable.

The proposed action does not involve a significant change in the probability or consequences of any accident previously evaluated, nor does it involve a new or different kind of accident. Consequently, any radiological releases resulting from an accident would not be significantly greater than previously determined. The proposed amendment does not otherwise affect routine radiological plant effluents. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment. The Commission also concludes that the proposed

action will not result in a significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure.

With regard to nonradiological impacts, the proposed amendment does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Because the Commission has concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action, there is no need to examine alternatives to the proposed action.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Final Environmental Statement related to operation of Nuclear Project No. 2, dated December 1981.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's request that supports the proposed amendment. The NRC staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed amendment.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes the the proposed action will have no significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the Federal Register on May 18, 1988 (53 FR 17810). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated March 18, 1988 and supplement dated April 12, 1989, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC 20555, and at the Richland City Library, Swift and Northgate Streets, Richland, Washington 99352.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of May 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



George W. Knighton, Director  
Project Directorate V  
Division of Reactor Projects III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation