

July 19, 1988

Docket No. 50-397

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

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION RELATED TO 10 CFR PART 20  
(TAC NO. 68268)

Enclosed for your information is a Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to you request of May 10, 1988 for an exemption from 10 CFR Part 20, Appendix A, Footnote d-2(c), for use at WNP-2. The exemption will allow use of a protection factor of 50 for Mine Safety Appliance GMR-I canisters for radioiodine atmospheres. The notice is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

original signed by

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Samworth".

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

Mr. G. C. Sorensen, Manager  
Washington Public Power Supply System

WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2  
(WNP-2)

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

NUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 2

DOCKET NO. 50-397

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING

OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 20 Appendix A, footnote d-2(c), to the Washington Public Power Supply System (WPPSS), who holds Facility Operating License No. NPF-21, which authorizes operation of WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2 (WNP-2). WNP-2 utilizes a boiling water reactor and is located in Benton County, Washington.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action: Appendix A sets forth protection factors for use in the selection of respiratory protective devices where the airborne contaminants have been identified and the possible concentrations are known. Footnote d-2(c) of that Appendix states that no allowance is to be made for the use of sorbents against radioactive gases or vapors. The exemption would allow the use of a protection factor of 50 for Mine Safety Appliances (MSA) GMR-I canisters for radioiodine atmospheres.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The exemption would make permissible the utilization of the GMR-I air-purifying respirator in lieu of supplied air or self contained breathing apparatus. The licensee contends that this will reduce the physical stress on workers, resulting in an associated reduction in personnel exposure.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: There are no significant environmental impacts of the proposed action. The proposed exemption pertains to the selection of breathing apparatus to be used by workers in areas potentially contaminated by radiation. The staff has determined that the proposed exemption involves no significant change in the types and no significant change in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. In fact the intent of the action is to allow the licensee to achieve a reduction in occupational radiation exposure.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemption involves systems located entirely within the restricted areas as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It 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 exemption.

Alternative to the Proposed Action: We have concluded that there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption. The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. Denial would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation, and would not allow the licensee to achieve the reduction in exposure of plant workers to radiation.

Alternative Use Of Resources: This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the "Final Environmental Statement Related to the Operation of WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2", dated December 1981.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for exemption dated May 10, 1988 which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Richland Public Library, Swift and Northgate Streets, Richland, Washington 99352.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of July, 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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